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GOLD MEDAL,
Calcutta Exhibition, 1884.

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TWENTY PRIZE MEDALS.

BIRTHS.

May 26, at Brisbane, Queensland, the wife of Lieutenant-Colonel EDWARD ROBERT DRURY, C.M.G., of a daughter.

June 13, the wife of the Rev. A. PARSONS, St. Anne's Rectory, Lewes, of a daughter.

June 20, at Government House, Barbados, Lady ROBINSON, of a son.

July 8, at Eastbourne, the wife of the Rev. J. J. BADDELEY, Incumbent of St. Anne's, of a son.

July 8, at Orleans, the wife of the Rev. H. J. E. WHEATCROFT, B.D., of a son.

July 8, at Elmore, near Gloucester, the wife of the Rev. J. E. F. JOHNSON, of a daughter.

July 9, at Stinchcombe Vicarage, Gloucestershire, the wife of the Rev. ROBERT C. LYNCH BLOSSE, of a daughter.

July 9, at Margaret Roding Rectory, Essex, the wife of the Rev. F. B. SHEPHERD, of a daughter.

July 9, at Duu's Tew Manor House, Oxfordshire, the Lady MARY DASHWOOD, of a daughter.

July 9, at the Free Manse, St. Andrew's, the wife of the Rev. JOHN F. MACRAE, of a son.

July 10, at Wotton, Gloucester, the wife of the Rev. W. VASSALL, of a son.

July 10, at Great Chart Rectory, Mrs. ERSKINE W. KNOLLYS, of a son.

July 12, at Dorset Villa, Cheltenham, the wife of the Rev. EDWARD HENRY WHINYATES, of a son.

July 14, at St. John's Vicarage, Brixton, S.W., the wife of the Rev. C. J. RASHLEIGH COOKE, of a daughter.

July 14, at 41, Berkeley-square, the Hon. Mrs. W. H. GLADSTONE, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

July 8, at St. Thomas's Church, Cocanada, Madras Presidency, J. N. ATKINSON, Esq., Madras Civil Service, second son of the late Richard Atkinson, Esq., of Temple Sowerby, Westmoreland, to CONSTANCE, fifth daughter of the late Rev. ROBERT BANKS, of St. Catherine's, Doncaster.

July 8, at Dunton, ALFRED BASKETT PINCKNEY, younger son of the Rev. W. Ph. Pinckney, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Rotherfield Greys, Henley-on-Thames, to CHARLOTTE SARAH, eldest surviving daughter of the Rev. E. W. DOWELL, Vicar of Dunton-c.-Doughton.

July 14, at St. Michael's, Malton, the Rev. LAWRENCE BURKE MORRIS, M.A., Rector of Thornton-in-Craven, eldest son of the late Canon Morris, to MARY GERTRUDE MURIEL WHITAKER, of Derwent Bank, Malton, eldest daughter of the late Marmaduke William Whitaker, of the North-Eastern Circuit, and Breckamore, Ripon.

July 14, at the parish church, West Drayton, JAMES MASON MULCAN, M.A., of Worcester College, Oxford, eldest son of the Rev. William Edward Mulgan, B.A., late Rector of Dunaghy, county Antrim, to BEATRICE, younger daughter of the late PHILIP CHARLES CAVAN, of 8, Park-crescent, London, W., Lt.-Col. of H.M. 30th Regt. of Foot (now the 1st Battalion of the East Lancashire Regt.).

July 15, at the parish church, Hampton-on-Thames, the Rev. STUDHOLME WILSON, youngest son of James Wilson, Esq., of Soho House, Handsworth, Staffordshire, to HELEN LOUISA, youngest daughter of the late SAMUEL RAWLINS, Esq., J.P., of Belvere, Hampton.

DEATHS.

July 3, at Bath, Colonel ALEXANDER GRAHAM OWEN, R.S.C., Commandant H.M.'s 19th Bengal Lancers, elder surviving son of the late Henry Travers Owen, Esq., of Fairlight, Tunbridge Wells, and formerly of the H.E.I.C.'s Bengal Civil Service.

July 4, Rear-Admiral JOHN CRAWFORD WILSON, Superintendent of the Royal Dockyard, Devonport, aged 50.

July 5, on board the P. and O. s.s. *Gwalior*, of fever, on his voyage home from India, ARTHUR, second and beloved son of Colonel SULLIVAN, (late 5th Royal Irish Lancers), aged 33.

July 6, at Risby, Bury St. Edmunds, ELIZA, the eldest surviving daughter of the late Rev. J. D. WASTELL.

July 8, at Llanfoist, Clifton, AMY GERTRUDE, youngest surviving daughter of the late Sir FREDERICK M. WILLIAMS, Bart., aged 16.

July 9, at 8, Oxford-parade, Cheltenham, MATILDA SARAH, the wife of the Rev. E. DOUGLAS JONES, Vicar of East and West Looe, Cornwall, aged 47.

July 9, suddenly, of apoplexy, at the Deanery House, Trim, Dean of Clonmacnois, in her 58th year.

July 9, at St. Anne's Rectory, Lewes, NORA SETON, the wife of the Rev. A. PARSONS, Rector St. Anne's, Lewes.

July 11, at 30, Tournay-road, Fulham, ANNE WOOD, third daughter of the late Rev. ROBERT MAUTACH, M.A., for many years Officiating Chaplain to the troops in Bermuda.

July 12, at Brighton, EDITH JOSEPHINE, the beloved child of the Rev. J. J. MALLABY.

July 13, at the Rectory, Horsmonden, Kent, CAROLINE, widow of Vice-Admiral Hon. GEORGE J. CAVENDISH, of Lynegrove, Surrey.

July 13, at Glenolden, Bournemouth, in her 81st year, MARIA ARABELLA, widow of the Rev. H. T. THOMPSON, M.A., late of Bury St. Edmunds.

July 14, at The Lodge, Ballyraggett, the Lady HARRIET KAVANAGH, aged 85.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—The French National *Fête*, which took place on Tuesday, was celebrated with the usual manifestations of rejoicing. The really significant part of the day's proceedings was the crowning of the statue of Strasburg, amid the applause of an audience numbering fifty thousand persons. The inauguration of a statue of Voltaire was the occasion of the delivery of several speeches, in which the present influence of the great writer in moulding the thought of the French nation was insisted upon. The people generally amused themselves with the numerous entertainments provided for them free of charge.

A meeting of Republican Deputies, held in Paris on Sunday, almost unanimously approved a draft manifesto to be issued to the country in the name of the party prior to the coming general elections. The principal points of the Moderate Republican programme are:—Reduction of the period of military service conditions compatible with the necessities of national defence; economic reform, and more particularly a readjustment of taxation; and, finally, the re-establishment of a real equilibrium in the Budget. The manifesto condemns all foreign policy of an adventurous character, and affirms the desire of the Republican party for a policy based upon self-respect and firmly carried out. It concludes by an appeal for union among all Republicans against the Monarchists. The manifesto will not be officially published until shortly before the general elections.

The Chamber has revived an obsolete law, and voted £16,000 for the education and board of the seventh child in French families. Some estimate the number of seventh children at 50,000, but State adoption is to be limited to those in necessitous circumstances—a restriction to which objection was taken, but which was carried by 260 votes to 121. The adoption is not to take effect till the age of six, and will terminate on the completion of the child's education.

On Sunday M. Allain Targé, Minister of the Interior, unveiled at Luneville a statue of the Abbé Gregoire, Bishop under the Revolution, and afterwards a Napoleonic Count. The same day there died at Thionville the oldest *Rosière* in France. She was born at Strasburg in 1793, and married to a soldier named Fousser on the same day as the wedding of Napoleon and Marie Louise. Her wedding took place in virtue of an Imperial decree that 6,000 retired veterans of at least one campaign were to be married to the most virtuous girls in France, and that the latter were to receive dowries of £240 each from the Emperor and a bridal dress from the commune in which they were respectively born.

Admiral Galiber, Minister of Marine, and M. Ferdinand de Lesseps have both expressed their approval of an important project which has recently been submitted to the Public Works Office. This is no less an enterprise than the cutting of a canal through France, which, connecting the English Channel with the Mediterranean, would be of sufficient depth to allow of the passage of the largest ironclads. The canal, beginning at Havre, would pass through Rouen, Paris, Lyons, and Marseilles, the waters of the Seine, Saône, and Rhone being utilised for the purpose. If such a scheme be regarded as feasible in France the waters of the Euphrates Valley might similarly be employed in connecting the Mediterranean with the Persian Gulf.

ITALY.—Cardinal Czaki has been charged by the Pope to treat for the nomination of an Archbishop of Posen with Herr von Schlözer, on behalf of Germany. The Pope only stipulates that the Government candidate shall be acceptable to the clergy and Catholics of the diocese. The chief difficulty is that one party wishes to nominate a Pole. An Ultramontane paper at Milan, after mentioning former attempts towards a reconciliation between the Quirinal and the Vatican, declares that, as the Pope is the infallible head of the Church, any steps he might take towards a reconciliation with Italy would call forth the respectful approval of all Roman Catholics.

AMERICA.—A serious outbreak is feared in the Indian territory led by the Cheyenne tribe, who number 1,200 warriors. The Goverament has ordered 3,000 troops from various parts of the frontier to Fort Reno, Indian territory, making a total force of 4,000 men, chiefly cavalry, available to put down the rebellion. General Miles has been sent to assume the command, and General Sheridan, the commander-in-chief, has left Washington for Fort Reno personally to superintend the operations.

The *San Francisco Bulletin* reports that, notwithstanding the prohibition of Chinese immigration, more than 8,100 Chinese landed there during the past year, gaining an entrance by means of fraudulent certificates. They all came from Hong Kong.

RUSSIA.—The *Daily News* says the heavy tax hitherto paid by all male peasants, including the youngest children, to the amount of about two roubles yearly, under the name of the *padushnaia* (tax on souls), is to be abolished on and after the 1st of January, 1887:—

"Another important change coming into operation at the same time has reference to the rent paid by the peasants belonging to the Domains for the ground given to them for cultivation. The reform referred to allows, or rather compels, the peasants belonging to the Domains for the first time to become proprietors of the ground in the course of forty-four years by paying an enhanced yearly rent, the sum to be in exact proportion to the real value of the land. The loss to the revenue by the first of these changes will, it is expected, be made good by a general income-tax."

The *Daily News* correspondent writes from Bami:—

"Owing to the scarcity of labour the Central Asian Railway has lately made but slow progress. Only a few miles have been constructed since the spring. Two separate telegraph lines place Bami in direct communication with European Russia."

The special committee which has been sitting for the purpose of considering the position of the "Dobrovolny Flott," or volunteer fleet, and for the elaboration of rules, &c., for its Government has, the *Kavkas* states, concluded its labours, and has submitted its proposals in a definite form for the consideration of the Committee of Ministers. The salient feature of the new rules is the obligation on the part of the fleet to keep up for six years from the date of their promulgation a regular postal, passenger, and trade service between Odessa and the Russian Pacific ports, in consideration for which the fleet is to receive a subsidy at the rate of 4½ roubles per mile traversed by each vessel. The actual government of the "Dobrovolny Flott" it is intended to entrust to a Special Commission, directly subject to the Admiralty, and the headquarters of which will be located in St. Petersburg. This Commission will be composed of a president and four members, two of whom will be naval officers, the remaining two being chosen from the Bourse committees of St. Petersburg and Moscow. The Commission will receive special remuneration from the fleet as follows:—The president 3,000 roubles per annum and each member 1,500 roubles per annum. In addition a certain sum will be allowed for every extraordinary sitting. The chief duties of the Commission will be—(1) A general supervision of all operations undertaken by the fleet; (2) the establishment of agencies and the supervision of their actions, as well as those of inspectors, &c.; (3) regulation of tariff, both for passengers and merchandise: (4) making good losses, &c., within certain limits, as authorised by the Admiralty; (5) rendering the yearly accounts, balances, &c., together with an abstract of the operations proposed to be undertaken during the ensuing year.

AFGHANISTAN.—The Teheran correspondent of the *Standard* states that Acting Consul Finn's clerk and guide, lately seized by the Russians, have arrived at Meshed:—

"They report that, when captured by the Russians, they were, first of all, strapped on their horses. Next they were, at Askabad, confined in separate cells. The guide was questioned by the Russian authorities, and released shortly afterwards; but the clerk was flogged, with the intention of wringing from him the names of British agents secretly operating on the frontier. As he gave no information on this point, he was remitted to his cell, and paper and pencil were handed to him, with an intimation that unless he divulged all that he knew within three days he would be blown from a gun."

The correspondent of the same paper with the Frontier Commission says:—

"The Persian territory between Chacha and Sarakhs is regularly used by the Russian reinforcements marching from the Caspian towards the Afghan frontier. Russian reinforcements are continually pouring towards Sarakhs. The passes opening on the Tejend plain from Khorassan to its mouths have all been secured by the Russians. Strategically this is a very important advantage."

There are renewed rumours of a further Russian advance and of the reinforcement of their post at Zulficar. The Frontier Commission has moved to the vicinity of Herat, for the purpose, it is said, of directing the defensive measures at that place. Another telegram from Teheran states that considerable Russian reinforcements have recently arrived at Merv and Pul-i-Khisti.

INDIA.—The Bombay Exhibition is to be postponed indefinitely.

The Lieutentant-Governor of Bengal has suggested placing Calcutta and its suburbs under one municipal body as an important step towards sanitary reform, and a commission has been appointed to consider the proposal. The majority of the Corporation is, however, likely to prove intractable.

A scheme for the complete fortification of the Andaman Islands has been sanctioned. Captain Shore, of the Engineers, will begin to carry it out at the end of the month.

TONQUIN.—General de Courcy's reinforcements have arrived at Hué. The Royal palace is safe, and contains a large store of wealth, including bar silver worth £200,000. The General has placed Hué in a state of siege, discharged the regular Annamite army, and given the different provinces notice to lay down their arms in times varying from a week to three weeks. The King of Annam is at a place to the rear of Cambo, a prisoner of the insurgent Thuyet, and the Queen-mother, the King's uncles, the Princes of the Royal family, and a number of mandarins have intimated their wish to return to Hué. M. de Freycinet has instructed General de Courcy, in his capacity of Resident, to maintain his action within the limits of the French protectorate over Annam, but that at the same time the Annamite functionaries who took an active part in the recent movement should be severely punished.

An arrangement has been come to between the French and the Chinese Governments concerning the reciprocal protection of the tombs of the soldiers who were buried in Tonquin, Formosa, &c., during the late hostilities.

SOUTH AFRICA.—Sir C. Warren's proposal to exclude settlers of Dutch extraction from land grants in the Protectorate is strongly condemned on all sides in the Cape Parliament. The loyalists in Stellaland protest vehemently against the annexation of that district to the Cape Colony.

The Zulus beyond the Reserve are reported to be in a more anarchic condition than ever. The Boers seem to hesitate to enforce their authority lest they should provoke a sanguinary collision. A large number of farmers are flocking into the country for winter pasturage.

HOLLAND.—On Monday was inaugurated the National Museum of Fine Arts at Amsterdam, in which many of the most precious art treasures of the Netherlands have found a permanent home. The building, a structure in Dutch Renaissance, erected by Mr. P. J. H. Cuypers, was begun in 1876, and has cost 2,000,000fl. The opening ceremony was the occasion of a general holiday. The Home Minister delivered the opening address, and all the members of the Cabinet, the Presidents, and many of the members of both Houses of Parliament, the Burgomaster and town councillors of Amsterdam, all the most eminent living Dutch artists, and a large number of miscellaneous notabilities were present. The proceedings concluded with the presentation of a gold commemorative medal to the architect and a banquet given by the Prime Minister in the Salle Couturier.

SPAIN.—The number of cholera cases recorded for Sunday was 1,197 and of deaths 588, being less than the numbers of the preceding day by 336 cases and 60 deaths.

On Monday there were 1,092 cases and 473 deaths.
On Tuesday 1,668 fresh cases, and 673 deaths.
On Wednesday 1,496 fresh cases and 664 deaths.

EGYPT.—The report of the Mahdi's death is generally believed in Cairo by the Arabs of the upper class.

The famine in Kordofan is assuming terrible proportions, and in Khartoum there is great scarcity of food. The rebels are not expected to advance towards Dongola for several months yet.

According to a telegram from Father Bonomi, a Catholic missionary who escaped from the Mahdi at El Obeid, Olivier Pain died at Omdurman after a severe illness.

Hussein Pasha Khalifa, who left Khartoum about six weeks ago, arrived at Alexandria last Sunday morning. He is (the *Times'* correspondent says) a man of superior intelligence, has carried out useful public works in Egypt, and, as chief of the Ababdeh tribe, holds a position of large influence:—

"He has been suspected of treachery in connection with the fall of Berber, but this charge cannot be justified. He held Berber until he had only 1,000 fighting men left, and was at last overcome by treachery among his soldiers and taken prisoner. By means of his powerful position as chief of the Ababdehs, and his strong character, he gained great influence over the Mahdi. He was at Omdurman when Khartoum fell. He reports that treachery only made its appearance in Khartoum when provisions ran short, which was shortly before the fall of the city. The earlier arrival of the English troops might have saved the town; but in a few days it must, if not relieved, have fallen through starvation. Latterly, the Pasha reports, men from Khartoum had passed to and fro reporting the condition of the garrison. The Mahdi was much annoyed at the death of General Gordon. About thirty Baggarahs told the General to surrender to the Mahdi. He refused, and they killed him. The recent battles have produced an immense fear of the English among the natives. They consider that an attack on the English is like running against rocks. If the English had attacked Berber, its surrender would probably have ensued.

"The Pasha states that the influence of the Mahdi is the mainstay of the rebellion. Though disliked by all, he wields despotic power over all. If the current report of his death should prove true, it would have an excellent effect. The retreat of the English is now further increasing his power, and the armed resistance to him in Kordofan is diminishing. Food has been short in the Soudan; but now the crops are sown and supplies are expected to be obtained later. The Mahdi's chief supporters are the Baggarahs, who have suffered immense losses by war and the small-pox. Hussein Pasha Khalifa has been instructed, as forerunner of the Mahdi, to proclaim his coming, and has seized the opportunity to come here and submit to the Khedive. The papers which he brings are the rebel proclamations and his powers held from the Mahdi. The Mahdi sends no word about peace. He seeks none, as all must, he says, succumb to him."

NORTH BORNEO.—We (says the *London and China Telegraph*) have already reported by telegram the news from North Borneo regarding the amok by Bajaus, a tribe of Dyaks inhabiting a district on the Kawang river, in which Dr. Manson Fraser was shot dead and Mr. de Fontaine and some of the Sikhs severely wounded. Mr. de Fontaine received nine spear wounds, from the effect of which he died shortly afterwards. The jemadhar and two others of the Sikh police were fatally speared during the amok. Mr. de Fontaine was the head of the North Borneo police, and was formerly an inspector in the Straits police force. He did good service during the disturbances in Sungei Ujong and the Negri Sembilan, while in command of a body of Arabs and others enlisted in Singapore. It appears that on the 10th of May Resident Davies, Captain de Fontaine, Dr. Fraser, Assistant-Resident Little, and Mr. J. E. J. Wheatley, with a party of constabulary, arrived at Kawang, which was selected as the most direct and convenient point of departure for an expedition to the village of a Murat chief, one Bandurong. On the 12th, as it was found impossible to obtain the required number of baggage carriers, it was proposed to defer the departure of the expedition pending further communications with Papar. The Europeans and the officers of the constabulary were standing about under a tree in a large plain near the village, when two men came up with muskets in their hands and entered into a comparatively friendly conversation with Dr. Fraser. Without any warning one of the men suddenly discharged his musket, killing the doctor instantaneously; an alarm was occasioned, seven Bajaus, friends of the two men alluded to, and including Orang Kaya Awang and two cattle thieves, at once amoked and speared fatally Jemadhar Asa Singh, Serjeant-Major Narain Singh, and Private Jendah Singh; they then endeavoured to escape by rushing across the plain towards the jungle, when Captain de Fontaine, in the most plucky manner, pursued them. All this happened in the space of a few moments only, and no one had time to support Captain de Fontaine before he tripped up and fell on the ground, when the Bajaus turned on him and inflicted no less than nine spear wounds on different parts of his body, three of his assailants falling, however, to his revolver. By this time the Sikhs, who were at some little distance off, had seized their rifles and opened fire, killing three others of the Bajaus and wounding the remaining two, who succeeded in making good their escape to the jungle. Mr. Little, son of Dr. Little, of Singapore, had at the commencement of the *mêlée* received a spear wound, penetrating the fleshy part of his arm and slightly injuring his side. He disposed of his opponent with his revolver. It was found that eight privates were wounded, some of them severely. They, together with Captain de Fontaine, were at once sent down river and put on board the Kimanis, which set off for Sandakan, touching at Gaya, where Mr. Whitehead, a gentleman travelling in North Borneo, most kindly accompanied the wounded. Until further intelligence is received it is impossible to say whether the treacherous attack was premeditated or whether, as some think, the first gun went off by accident, giving rise to the panic which has had such sad results.

The Canadian Parliament has granted 230 acres of land to each man who took up arms to suppress the recent rebellion.

A smart shock of earthquake is reported to have occurred in Smyrna at half-past one o'clock on Wednesday morning, the vibration being also slightly felt at Chesme.

The Rev. Josiah Spencer, chaplain, and Her Majesty's Inspector of Schools in Cyprus, writes from Nicosia, June 29:—"The notice which appeared in the *Times* of May 29 of the church which is now being built for English worship at Nicosia is a little misleading as regards the cost. It is quite true that the amount which has been subscribed is equal to the sum for which the contractor has undertaken to erect the building. But it should have been stated that, in addition to this sum, at least £275 will be required for glass and furniture. The committee have recently issued a circular appealing for fresh subscriptions to enable them to supply at once all that is necessary, in order that the church may be completed and consecrated without delay. I trust that you will kindly insert this correction, lest it should be thought that we have no further need of the help of our friends in England. Dr. Dobbs, who was secretary of the church committee, having left the island, communications should be addressed to me."

Evidently the life philosophic tends to longevity. There are at present at the various German Universities no fewer than 157 professors between the ages of 70 and 90. Of these 122 deliver their lectures as usual, seven of them being more than 85 years of age. The oldest is the veteran Von Ranke, the historian, who is now in his 90th year, but is not considered fully equal in vigour, memory, and other faculties to Professor Elvenich, who is thirty-nine days his junior. After all, it is not remarkable that a professor should live to a good old age. He has a secured income and congenial pursuits. He ought to be devoid of the unworthy passions that shorten existence, and to lead a life as placid as that of the gods of Epicurus. But Germany, in spite of the figures we have quoted, cannot show a professor equal to M. Chevreuil, of Paris, who still lectures, still writes, still conducts experiments in chemistry, still walks every day from his house to his laboratory, and will, if he lives, be 100 years of age in the August of next year.—*St. James's Gazette.*

Intelligence has just been received from Bathurst, River Gambia, of a rising of the natives in the district, who are reported to have destroyed two or three towns and carried off many of the inhabitants. The raids are said to have been made by the warriors of Chief Beram Cissey, who himself headed the marauders. The first descent was made on the town of Jayed, a place about 300 yards from the river Gambia. After plundering the place the invaders set it on fire. As many as could fled from the city, but several fell into the enemy's hands, including five subjects of British Bathurst. The persons taken were led away into captivity. All the establishments of the traders were plundered and much booty obtained. The fugitives fled towards the River Gambia, and many of them were here picked up by a trading cutter. The poor people were almost naked when found on the banks of the river. The town of Toro was also destroyed by Cissey and his followers. It was stated that the interior of the country had been in a disturbed state for some time, war raging incessantly between the rival chiefs until the belligerents had gradually come to the seaboard. Some of the chiefs, it is said, received annuities from the British Government, with which they are stated to have purchased ammunition to carry on the hostilities. Said Matti, the powerful ruler of the Baddiboo country, had been put to flight by the allied forces of three rival rulers. Said Matti's dominions extend to the river Gambia, and in his flight he set fire to the various places in preference to leaving them in the hands of the enemy. A memorial from the merchants of Bathurst was sent to Governor Moloney, praying his Excellency's intervention in the interest of the British subjects affected. Under date of June 26th, it is stated that something like a crisis had arisen in the affairs of the Gambia, in consequence of these tumults. A correspondent states that on the death of King Maba, his son, Said Matti, should have succeeded to the throne, but his authority was usurped by his uncle, Mahmoud Derry Bah, the Regent. Civil war ensued, with the result that Said Matti was ultimately defeated, although it is quite possible that he may make another effort to recover his lost position. Until lately the action of the Administrator of the Gambia (Captain Moloney) was confined to the giving of good advice and to offers of mediation. When one of Said Matti's stockaded towns was recently captured, the victors not only burnt the place but pillaged the goods of British subjects, and the latter in consequence fled to Bathurst for safety. The Administrator at once left for the seat of war in the hope of being able to obtain reparation, as well as to prevent all danger of hostilities extending to British territory. The Administrator's mission appears to have been completely successful, as in an interview with Mahmoud Derry Bah he succeeded in extracting from that chief a promise that the claims of the plundered traders should be satisfied. A Board, consisting of Mr. Richards, the chief magistrate at Bathurst, Mr. J. R. Maxwell, the Queen's Advocate, and a native merchant, was engaged in investigating these claims, so that compensation might be demanded only for such as were shown to be well founded.

The *London and China Telegraph*, in its summary of news from China received by the last mail, records the following incident which occurred in the Mixed Court at Shanghai on the 29th of May, the conduct of the magistrate fairly eclipsing anything which has

been seen since the Court was established. The case out of which the occurrence arose was a petty charge of loitering for a felonious purpose brought against three men by a Chinese clerk in the employ of Mr. Cory. The three men, when taken to the police-station, were found to be in possession of two *lekin* runner's badges and one *lekin* runner's coat, while one of them was recognised as an old thief who had served two months in the chain gang. The police at first preferred a charge against the men of illegally exercising *lekin* runners' rights in the settlement, but as there was no direct evidence in support of this charge it was abandoned, and the men were simply charged with loitering. Huang, after putting one or two questions to the prosecutor in a very offhand manner, said he believed the man was lying, and he should discharge the prisoners. Mr. Giles, who was sitting as assessor, did not object to the men being dismissed, but said they ought at least to be cautioned and told that they had been acting wrongly, especially as one of them was a convicted thief. Huang, however, in the rudest manner, declined to listen to anything Mr. Giles had to say, and made use of language to him of a most disrespectful kind, using the second person instead of the third, as is proper in Chinese, and saying repeatedly "What business is that of yours?" When Mr. Giles referred to one of the prisoners having been a thief, Huang replied, "Don't you believe a thief can repent? Before you were vice-consul you used to be an interpreter, but nobody knows what you were before that." Finally, he wound up by saying, "I tell you again that this matter has nothing whatever to do with you foreigners," and he emphasised this remark by rapping Mr. Giles sharply on the knuckles with the inky end of a pen which he held in his hand. Mr. Giles knocked the pen out of his worship's hand and angrily expostulated with him on his conduct, whereupon the magistrate, beside himself with rage, jumped up and, shouting out something in Chinese, deliberately struck Mr. Giles on the shoulder with his open hand. Mr. Giles, who naturally appeared to find it very difficult to keep his temper under this provocation, hastily left the bench, overturning a small table as he stepped down. Superintendent M'Ewen, who was seated by the side of the bench watching the case on behalf of the police, at once informed the magistrate through the interpreter that he had witnessed the blow, which indeed was too apparent to escape the attention of any person in court. His worship then directed that the three prisoners should be detained at the Mixed Court, and Captain M'Ewen submitted to this, only informing the magistrate that he should hold him responsible for the production of the men whenever the higher authorities, Consular or Chinese, might require it. There were several other police cases on the charge sheets for hearing, but Captain M'Ewen declined to bring the prisoners forward in the absence of Mr. Giles, and directed the police to take them back to the different stations. The assault committed by the magistrate on Mr. Giles was then entered on the charge sheet. The matter will, of course, be taken serious notice of, and we can scarcely doubt that the British authorities will insist on the removal from office of a magistrate who, after constantly proving himself unjust and incompetent, has wound up by disgracing the Bench and shamefully insulting a British Vice-Consul.

IRELAND.

A deputation, representing the Corporation of Belfast, waited on the Earl of Carnarvon at the Castle on Saturday, and presented his Excellency with an address expressing loyalty and devotion to the Throne and the Queen, and congratulating him on his assumption of the office of Viceroy.

In Dublin on Saturday judgment was delivered with respect to the proposal of the Town Council to change the name of Sackville-street. The Court held that the Corporation had no power to change the name to O'Connell-street against the wishes of the inhabitants and that the Court could restrain the Corporation by injunction. Sentimental and historical grounds, however laudable in the abstract, were not those on which a municipal body could exercise powers productive of injury and inconvenience.

Some disturbances occurred in Ireland on Sunday in connection with the Orange celebrations. In Belfast two mobs assembled a short distance from the terminus of the Belfast and Northern Counties Railway. They belonged to opposite parties, and commenced stoning each other. A man named Turner, who was passing, was shot in the leg and seriously wounded. Several arrests were made. At Portadown a savage attack was made upon the Salvation Army by the Roman Catholics. They were pelted with stones, bricks, and broken earthenware. Several of the Salvationists were severely injured. One old man, it is feared, will not recover. The Orangemen had previously passed through the streets, but being in large numbers were not molested.

Great excitement was caused on Tuesday evening in financial circles in Dublin by a notice from the directors of the Munster Bank announcing the suspension of payment owing to a large and continued withdrawal of deposits since the recent litigation commenced in the cause of Jackson *v.* Munster Bank, and that the realisation expected from securities will amply suffice to discharge their obligations.

Mr. W. Shaw, M.P., presided over a meeting of the shareholders of the Munster Bank held in Cork on Thursday. The hon. gentleman said that payment ought never to have been suspended. Had he been consulted he knew of several sources from which funds could have been obtained easily to avert the catastrophe. There was a general expression of opinion, not only at that meeting, but at one held in Dublin, that an attempt should be made to resuscitate the bank, and that the assistance of the Government should be requested. A committee for this purpose was formed, and it was agreed to hold a general meeting of the shareholders in Dublin to-day (Saturday).

Replying on Wednesday to an address from the Presbytery of Belfast, Lord Carnarvon said he fully recognised the importance of the task that had been imposed on him by Her Majesty; but he needed not their assurance that he had all the good wishes and sympathy of Ulster in his task, to know that he could count on the sturdy help and the robust loyalty of the North in carrying out his task. Her Majesty's Government had appealed to the people of Ireland, and he for one trusted, and with confidence, that the appeal would not be unanswered. He looked for the co-operation of every loyal and right-minded man in Ireland. His Lordship also received a deputation representing the Royal Irish Academy, and in replying to them referred to the failure of the Munster Bank, and said he had heard with deep sorrow of the calamity that had fallen upon many of the people of Ireland by the suspension of the bank.

A Roman correspondent of the *Times* states that the Pope fully intended to appoint Dr. Moran to the Archbishopric of Dublin, but finding that a popular demonstration was about to be held in Dublin he saw it would be better to anticipate the movement, as he could not yield to popular clamour, and yet if he resisted it the consequences would be serious. "To avoid this second dilemma he decided there and then to give a red hat to Dr. Moran, who is steaming towards Europe with the expectation of becoming Archbishop of Dublin, and to appoint Dr. Walsh to the vacant See."

Imperial Parliament.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—MONDAY.

Lord Powerscourt and Lord Henley, on being created peers of the United Kingdom, and Lord Hobhouse (Sir A. Hobhouse), on his elevation to the peerage, took their seats.

An animated discussion followed a motion by Lord SPENCER that the Tramways (Ireland) Provisional Order (No. 2) Bill be committed to a Committee of the whole House. The motion was opposed by Lord REDESDALE and other noble lords, on the ground that there was a standing order of their lordships' House requiring all such schemes to be treated as private Bills, and, if opposed, to be sent before a Select Committee. Lord FITZGERALD, Lord SELBORNE, and the Lord CHANCELLOR expressed the most decided opinion that by an Act passed for Ireland in 1860 Bills like the one before their Lordships were directed to be treated in all respects as public measures. It was shown during the discussion that in conformity with the provisions of that Act and an Act of 1883, which amended it, the Bill had already undergone a full examination by a Grand Jury, and had been approved by the Lord Lieutenant and the Irish Privy Council, and that the effect of treating it as a private measure would be to subject it to an expensive investigation by both Houses of Parliament. Lord SELBORNE, having regard to those circumstances, stated his belief that their lordships had not had before them for some time so important a question as the one which they were then called on to decide. In the result Lord SPENCER's motion carried by ninety-five to twenty. The Poor Law Guardians (Ireland) Bill passed through Committee and was reported with amendments. Lord CASTLETOWN asked whether Her Majesty's Government would take any steps to force the Irish Land Commission to utilise its powers, or, in the alternative, would appoint a Commission with plenary powers to carry out the provisions of the purchase clauses of the Land Law (Ireland) Act, 1881, in a liberal and expeditious manner. Lord WATERFORD said it was evident from their own proposals on the subject that the late Government were not satisfied with the working of the purchase clauses of the Act of 1881, but he thought it better not to enter further into the subject till the Purchase Bill which the present Government proposed to introduce was before their Lordships. The East India Loan (£10,000,000) Bill passed through Committee, and was reported without amendments. Lord BRAMWELL, on his now familiar grounds of property defence, moved that the petition of the metropolitan water companies be referred to the Select Committee on the Waterworks Clauses Act (1847) Amendment Bill, with leave to the petitioners to be heard against the Bill. Lord BROWNLOW called their Lordships' notice to the fact that the same motion, supported by the same arguments, was moved by Lord Bramwell last week, and on that occasion the noble and learned Lord failed to induce their Lordships to adopt his view. Lord ENFIELD observed that if Lord Bramwell, on the motion for the second reading, had moved that the Bill be read a second time that day three months, such a course would have been a manly one; but the course which the noble and learned Lord had taken was one which would indirectly get rid of the Bill. The understanding come to in their Lordships' House last week was that the water companies might appear before the Committee by their agents, but not by counsel. The noble and learned Lord's motion would let in counsel for those rich companies, while the ratepayers would have no such professional assistance to defend their rights. Lord SELBORNE did not think that justice required the adoption of Lord BRAMWELL'S proposal. The motion was negatived without a division, and

Their Lordships rose at ten minutes to eight o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—MONDAY.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, answering a question from the LORD MAYOR, said the Government believed that it would be in accordance with the general feeling in the House and the country that a memorial should be erected to General Gordon, and when they had considered its position and character they would be prepared to propose a vote. In answer to Mr. BUCHANAN, Lord R. CHURCHILL said he was not aware of any intention to construct any military roads, &c., on the north-west frontier of India besides those mentioned in the despatch of September, 1884, and the Bolan Railway; and, asked as to the reported cantonment at Candahar, he replied that the hon. member seemed to forget that Afghanistan was an independent country. Answering a question from Mr. HOULDSWORTH, Lord J. MANNERS said the Government would give the late Postmaster-General facilities for taking the next stage of the Telegraphs Bill, and in Committee he would move an amendment which would place the whole case before the House. Mr. SHAW-LEFEVRE said this arrangement would be most convenient. In answer to Mr. BRODRICK, Mr. BOURKE said the Foreign Office had heard of a rumour that the Mahdi was dead, but nothing definite. The House then went into Committee of Supply, and was engaged until a late hour on the Army Estimates. On the Supplementary Estimate for 35,000 men a long and discursive conversation arose, and Mr. W. H. SMITH in moving the vote said that though it was not intended to call up any more men to the colours beyond the 11,000 or 12,000 men who had already joined, it was not thought right to reduce the demand which had been made by his predecessor, and which formed part of the vote of credit. Lord HARTINGTON asked whether any additional demand would be necessary in consequence of a suspension of the evacuation of the Soudan at a point further south than had been fixed by the late Government, and argued energetically against the demand which had been made for an inquiry into the conduct of the second Souakim expedition. Sir W. BARTTELOT suggested that some substantial reward should be given to the forces employed in the march to the Nile. Mr. RYLANDS, who desired to see the country protected by a small but well appointed army, moved the reduction of the vote to 12,000 men. Colonel NOLAN complained of the small number of promotions from the ranks, and Sir F. FITZWYGRAM strongly advocated the increased employment of mounted infantry. Lord E. Cecil, Colonel Colthurst, Sir R. Loyd-Lindsay, Mr. Bulwer, Sir H. Verney, Mr. Causton, Mr. Illingworth, and Mr. Gourley also spoke, and Lord HARTINGTON having deprecated a reduction of the vote on the ground that it might raise false hopes as to the security of the country, Mr. W. H. SMITH, briefly replying to the suggestions which had been made, paid a high tribute to the gallantry of the forces engaged in the Soudan, which he said he hoped to add to on a future occasion. On a division the amendment was negatived by 98 to 12, and the vote was agreed to. The votes for the Volunteer Corps and Army Reserve pay and allowances were agreed to, and on the vote for the Commissariat and Transport Department Dr. CAMERON renewed his attack upon the department, and, having quoted numerous instances of failure in the late campaign in the Soudan, moved the reduction of the vote by £1,000. Mr. DAWNAY supported the vote and bore testimony to the efficient manner in which the Army in the Soudan had been supplied with stores. Mr. BRAND also defended the department, and after a long discussion the amendment was negatived on a division by 121 to 48. The vote for Provisions, &c., was also agreed to, and the Committee adjourned. The Post Office Sites Bill passed through Committee. On the report of Supply, Mr. SHAW-LEFEVRE gave the promised explanation on behalf of the late Government of the reinstatement of Hobart Pasha in the British Navy. The step he showed was quite in accordance with numerous precedents, and Hobart Pasha had himself been reinstated in 1874, but the main reason which had actuated the Government was that at a time when war was probable the information possessed by Hobart Pasha would be of great service. Mr. BRYCE expressed dissatisfaction with the explanation, and maintained that Hobart Pasha, having been guilty of an offence against the neutrality laws, which might have seriously compromised this country, ought not to have been reinstated. Mr. M'COAN and Mr. LABOUCHERE justified the late Government, while Sir R. PEEL maintained that the reinstatement of Hobart Pasha was directly opposed to the regulations of the Admiralty. Mr. RYLANDS and Mr. ILLINGWORTH also condemned Hobart Pasha's reinstatement, while Mr. A. EGERTON approved of it, and, after a few words from Dr. CAMERON, Mr. CROPPER, and Lord G. HAMILTON, the reduction of the vote was negatived on a division by 107 to 55. On the order of the day for the second reading of the Crofters Bill being called on, Mr. BARCLAY, in the absence of its authors, moved the second reading. After some discussion, Mr. PAGET moved the adjournment of the debate. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER supported the motion, and on a division it was carried by 81 to 47. Mr. A. BALFOUR brought in his Medical Relief Disqualification Bill, which was read a first time.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—TUESDAY.

Lord Breadalbane took his seat on his elevation from an earldom to a marquisate. Lord Wolseley occupied a seat below the gangway on the Ministerial side. The Secretary for Scotland Bill passed through Committee, after the adoption of some amendments proposed by Lord ROSEBERY, who has charge of it, and of others proposed by Lord CRANBROOK on the part of the Government. On the motion of the Archbishop of CANTERBURY the Archdeaconries Bill was read a second time. Lord BURY, in reply to Lord ENFIELD, stated that the Committee, at the head of which was the Prince of Wales, had chosen a knoll to the north of the Royal Pavilion at Aldershot for the Wellington statue to be erected upon, and the work of preparing the site was in progress. Lord NORTHBROOK, pursuant to notice, called attention to certain statements made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer relative to the administration of the late Board of Admiralty. In doing so he avowed that he was the only person responsible to Parliament in respect of the portion of the Vote of Credit expended by the late Board, and of the estimate of expenditure required by the preparations for war. That being so, he was astonished that the Chancellor of the Exchequer had not applied to him for information; but he had had no notice from the right hon. gentleman of the attack he intended to make on him, and consequently it had been impossible for him to prepare anyone in the House of Commons to answer that attack. Since it was made he applied to the present First Lord, who had given him every facility for an examination of papers in the department. Whatever any unauthorised person might have represented to the Treasury, he never had authorised any statement to be made to that department which would justify the charge made against him by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, that his department had spent a very large sum beyond that which it acknowledged having spent when Mr. Childers made his financial statement. It was the fact that in the beginning of May, when the prospects of assured peace seemed so good, he did represent to his right hon. friend that, if peace were at once assured, he would be able to save out of the Vote of Credit on account of war preparations £150,000, but the former object was not accomplished. The negotiations dragged on through the month of May, and when, at the beginning of June, Mr. Childers made his financial statement, the liabilities in the Admiralty Department for war preparations stood at £350,000 beyond the sum which had been put down for them as an expenditure under the Vote of Credit. He was, however, even at that time, in hopes of saving some of those liabilities. The Chancellor of the Exchequer had also charged the late Board of Admiralty with having provided torpedo boats without torpedoes, whereas the fact was that, although the boats in question were such as could be used as torpedo boats, they had not been intended for such use in a war between this country and Russia. He argued that what the Chancellor of the Exchequer had said with respect to the naval expenditure for service in the Soudan was as groundless as his other charges. He, as First Lord, might have made mistakes and have been too hasty in giving orders; but he held that the country would not have pardoned anyone in that position if he had relaxed in his preparations during the month of May; and he was now ready to meet inquiry into his conduct by competent and impartial men who had not been connected with the late Government and were not connected with this. Having passed from the particular question of the statements made by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, the noble Lord proceeded to a defence of the general policy of the late Board of Admiralty, and concluded by moving for papers. Lord HARROWBY disclaimed on behalf of every member of the Government, the intention of a personal attack on Lord Northbrook, whose distinguished public services they fully recognised. They did not assail any one, and they did not say whether the expenditure by the late Board of Admiralty was right or wrong. The question they raised was whether the accounting arrangements of the Admiralty were efficient. The late Chancellor of the Exchequer, in a statement to the House of Commons, informed that House that of the Vote of Credit a sum of £2,800,000 had been expended by the Admiralty, and when the present First Lord asked for information in his department he was informed that the sum expended was £2,740,000; but on further inquiry he first found that £350,000 more had been expended; that sum rose to £700,000, and ultimately it was found that no less than £952,000 more than the £2,800,000 had been expended in the department. In these circumstances the Chancellor of the Exchequer was justified in bringing the matter under the notice of the House of Commons as a grave one. The present Government thought that economy in the public service was essential, and there could be no economy without good accounts in the public departments. It was, therefore, their intention to institute an inquiry into this discrepancy between the actual expenditure by the late Board of Admiralty and the very much smaller sums represented to Mr. Childers and Lord George Hamilton as the amount which had been spent. The motion was agreed to, and the other orders having been disposed of, their Lordships rose at eight o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—TUESDAY.

Mr. BOURKE, in answer to Sir W. LAWSON, said there was no record in the Foreign Office confirming the stories that arrangements had been made during the late strained relations with Russia for the entry of the British Fleet into the Black Sea; and Sir R. CROSS, in answer to Mr. C. BENTINCK, said it was not intended to prosecute the editor or publisher of the *Pall Mall Gazette*. Lord R. CHURCHILL, answering a question from Mr. BUCHANAN, said there had been no communications, nor, so far as he knew, were any contemplated, with the Ameer for the formation of a British cantonment at Candahar. As to a military occupation without the Ameer's consent, he repeated that it would be an act of war, and the Ameer was our friend and ally.

The House having gone into Committee of Supply, Mr. E. STANHOPE, in moving the Education Vote, made the usual statement in reference to the condition of education in Great Britain. Compared with the revised estimate of last year, the estimate for this year for England and Wales showed an increase of £121,000, which arose from the increase in the rate of attendance to the amount of 4·67 per cent., and the increased grant to day schools, amounting to one penny per child. The cost of maintenance, he said, was still increasing; in Board schools it was £2 1s. 8½d., and in Voluntary schools £1 15s. 2d. The disproportion was greatest in the large towns, and in London the Board schools cost 12s. 4d. per head more than the Voluntary schools. The total expenditure on education amounted to £6,451,000, of which £2,846,000 came from the Government grant, £734,000 from voluntary contributions, £1,734,000 from school pence, £915,000 from school rates, and £222,000 from endowments and other sources. In addition to this, there had been building grants amounting to £312,000, £6,348,000 had been contributed voluntarily to meet these grants and to build new schools, and the School Boards had borrowed £16,000,000 for the same purpose on the security of the rates. In all there had been a capital expenditure of £23,000,000 since the passing of the Act. As to the results, some 4,826,000 places had been provided, which were nearly 300,000 more than the usual proportion of children compared with the population, and the increase, which during the last year was 3·34 per cent., was 170 per cent. since the commencement of the Act. The number of children on the books was 4,337,000 and the average attendance 3,274,000, being 96 per cent. of the total number of children in one case and 72 per cent. in the other, and during the year the number of passes had increased by 2·36, and the passes in Standard IV. had increased 10·8 per cent. Mr. STANHOPE next made some observations on overpressure, the existence of which, he contended, had been proved to some extent, and on the special subjects of cookery and drawing, the new provisions as to which he explained in some detail. In conclusion, he explained the Scotch vote, which shows an increase of £24,761. There was an increase of 11,000 children, and the rate of expenditure had risen from 17s. 11½d. to 18s. 1d. The number of scholars had increased by 3·3 per cent., and the average attendance by 3·49. The usual desultory discussion followed, being opened by Mr. S. BUXTON and Sir F. MILNER. Sir J. LUBBOCK suggested that the selection of class subjects should be left to the schoolmasters, and maintained that children should at least be taught something of the laws of nature, history, and geography. Mr. HUBBARD urged that Voluntary schools should be put upon the same footing as Board schools; Mr. PICTON argued in favour of giving free scope to the Kindergarten system; and Mr. TALBOT

asked for the appointment of a Royal commission to inquire into the subject of Elementary education generally. Mr. MUNDELLA spoke of the satisfactory results of education in improving the moral tone of the poorer classes, and dwelt upon the advantage of Voluntary schools being governed by good managers. Admitting that there might be some cases of over-pressure, he maintained that, as a rule, the health of children attending schools was good, and, while advocating economy in education, strongly deprecated a parsimonious policy. He complained that female teachers in Voluntary schools were overworked, and, having pointed out that a larger sum of money was spent on education in some of our colonies than in England, concluded by quoting from a document issued by the Prison Commissioners, showing that a large diminution in crime had been apparent during the last few years in the case of persons under thirty years of age, which he had no hesitation in ascribing to the influence of education. Lord A. PERCY touched upon the increasing expense of School Boards, especially in London. Mr. L. STANLEY, who admitted that the cost in London was high, doubted whether it could be diminished; and Mr. AKERS having advocated facilities being given for the education of the blind, the deaf, and the dumb, Mr. MOLLOY hoped increased encouragement would be given to the maintenance of Voluntary schools, whose gradual extinction he contended would lead to the abrogation of Christianity. Mr. RANKIN and Mr. COCHRAN-PATRICK commented generally upon Elementary education; and Dr. CAMERON and Dr. WEBSTER having dealt with the subject as applied to Scotland, Mr. STANHOPE briefly replied; and on the Scotch Vote Sir L. PLAYFAIR protested against so large a sum of money being voted for education in Scotland without its being known by whom it would be administered. The vote was then agreed to, as was also the vote for the Science and Art Department. The Committee then took up Class III. of the Civil Service Estimates, and having completed it, with the exception of the Irish votes, the Committee made some progress with Class VI.

Several Bills were forwarded a stage, and the House adjourned at 25 minutes to 3 o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—WEDNESDAY.

The House was occupied the greater part of the afternoon, in Committee of Supply, in discussing the vote for the Houses of Parliament. Mr. PLUNKET, in moving the vote of £35,000 for the completion of the works along the west wall of Westminster Hall, on the site of the demolished Law Courts, explained at length the details of Mr. Pearson's plan, which the Government had taken over from their predecessors, and which, after a long examination, has been recommended by a Select Committee. Mr. M. HENRY, on the other hand, moved the reduction of the vote, and criticised severely Mr. Pearson's proposals; and Mr. SHAW LEFEVRE, defending his own action and the recommendations of the Committee, showed that every one of Mr. Henry's objections had been carefully considered and disposed of by the Committee. Mr. DICK PEDDIE vindicated in detail the counter-scheme which he had laid before the Committee. Sir H. HOLLAND, who spoke as a member of the Select Committee, and not as Financial Secretary of the Treasury, expressed approval of the plans which had been adopted, and Mr. BERESFORD-HOPE characterised the objections which had been made to them as frivolous and untenable. Mr. ILLINGWORTH and Mr. CAUSTON advocated delay, as did Mr. COURTNEY, who urged that the flying buttresses should not be concealed from view, which he argued would be the case if Mr. Pearson's scheme was carried out. Sir JOHN LUBBOCK and Mr. RYLANDS supported the vote, and Mr. WALTER contended that Mr. Pearson's plan was by far the best submitted to the Committee. Mr. S. SMITH, Sir G. CAMPBELL, and Mr. CAVENDISH BENTINCK also spoke, and Mr. PLUNKET having deprecated any further delay, especially as the opponents of the scheme of Mr. Pearson were far from agreeing upon any alternative plan, the motion to reduce the vote was negatived on a division by 196 to 42, and the vote agreed to. Several other votes in Clauses 4 and 6 of the Civil Service estimates were also agreed to. The Poor Law Unions' Officers (Ireland) Bill was read a second time. On the motion of Lord G. HAMILTON a committee was appointed, to be nominated by the Committee of Selection, to inquire into the recent Admiralty excesses, and the noble Lord read a letter from Lord Northbrook approving this method of settling the controversy. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER took the opportunity of disclaiming all intention of making an attack on the late First Lord. On the adjournment of the House Sir J. LUBBOCK asked what truth there was in the rumour of a Russian advance, and Lord R. CHURCHILL replied that the Government had heard of rumours that the Russian forces had been increased in the neighbourhood of Zulfikar, but as to the extent of that increase they had received no reliable information. Colonel Ridgeway's Commission had moved towards Herat, and Captain Pearson and Captain Yate had repaired by invitation to Herat.

The House adjourned at a quarter to six o'clock.

HOUSE OF LORDS.—THURSDAY.

The Royal Assent was given by commission to three public and forty-three private Bills. Lord ASHBOURNE gave notice that on Friday he would present a Bill to facilitate the sale of land to occupying tenants in Ireland. On the motion that the House go into Committee on the Tramways (Ireland) Provisional Order (No. 2) Bill, Lord LIMERICK contended that the House came to an erroneous decision on Monday evening in resolving that the Bill was a public one. He argued that it was a private Bill, and, further, that if it was a public one it was a measure which ought to have been introduced in the House of Commons, because it came within the Standing Order of that House relating to money Bills. He moved that the order for committing the Bill to a Committee of the whole House be discharged. The motion was negatived without a division, and the Bill passed through Committee.

Lord SALISBURY, in moving the second reading of the Housing of the Working Classes (England) Bill, stated that there were two branches of evil to be dealt with in connection with this subject. The first was that relating to sanitary matters; the second, overcrowding. The deficiencies in sanitary arrangements were in course of cure, and if the existing law were put in force they could scarcely exist. It was, however, thought desirable in this Bill to give the local authorities the power of making by-laws for the more efficient inspection of lodging-houses. As to over-crowding, the metropolis did not possess the advantage, which most towns did, of having on its immediate outskirts available space for the erection of cottages to accommodate those who were driven out of habitations in the town itself. In this Bill power was given to the Metropolitan Board of Works, with the sanction of the Secretary of State, to adopt the Labouring Classes Lodging-houses Acts of 1851 and 1867, and a similar power, with the sanction of other authorities, was given to urban and rural sanitary districts to adopt those Acts. Further, the Metropolitan Board of Works would be enabled to become possessed of the sites of certain disused prisons; and he had to express a hope that such buildings would be erected on those sites as would provide lodging accommodation for working people at a cheaper rate than in the Peabody Model Lodging-houses. The Bill would amend the Settled Land Act of 1882, so that the improvements enumerated in the 25th section of that Act should include, in addition to cottages for labourers, farm servants, and artisans, any buildings available for the working classes. The Bill was read a second time.

The report of amendments in the Secretary for Scotland Bill was brought up and received, and, some other Bills having been advanced a stage.

Their Lordships rose at ten minutes past six o'clock.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.—THURSDAY.

The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER, answering a question from Lord HARTINGTON, said there was no further information from Afghanistan to be communicated to the House. In answer to Mr. RUSTON, Mr. BOURKE said that the convention as to the Egyptian loan of nine millions had not been ratified by all the Powers, and no part of it had been raised. On the second reading of the Customs and Inland Revenue Bill, Mr. CHILDERS intimated that it was not the intention of the front Opposition Bench to move any amendment, and after some remarks on the responsibility of the Chancellor of the Exchequer for the greater part of the deficit and the Sinking Fund, in the mode of dealing with which he concurred, he protested at length against the doctrine that the limit of taxation had been reached on all important articles of taxation. The incautious language which had been used on this subject by the Chancellor of the Exchequer would be very mischievous, and, examining its accuracy, he maintained that from a revenue point of view solely, without taking political motives into account, an additional revenue of at least £5,000,000 might be raised from liquor alone. This Budget, introduced by a Conservative Government, sounded the knell of indirect taxation; and if, in the struggle which must follow, landed property got the worst of it, it ought to be remembered to whom the misfortune was due. Mr. HUBBARD, who maintained, in reply to Mr. CHILDERS, that the knell of indirect taxation was rung in 1842, moved an amendment advocating the readjustment of local rating and Imperial taxation so as to regulate their incidence upon the principle of assessing rates and taxes upon the real or the net annual value. Mr. SCLATER-BOOTH pointed out that the Valuation Bill which he introduced in the late Parliament would have effected the object referred to in the amendment, and contended that extraordinary expenses like those of the present year should be met by indirect taxation, which should be imposed upon a recognised fixed principle. Sir JOHN LUBBOCK twitted the Government with having infringed the two main principles laid down by Conservative financiers—that each year should pay for its own expenditure, and that increased taxation should not be entirely thrown on owners of property and Income-tax payers. He regretted also that in the present time of peace they were providing for increased expenditure by adding to the debt of the country. Mr. NEWDEGATE and Mr. HICKS also spoke, and Mr. MUNTZ having dwelt upon the wine duties and the Spanish Treaty, Mr. Alderman LAWRENCE contended that succession duty should be placed upon an equal footing with probate duty, and Mr. SALT, while admitting that the Budget did not embody sound principles of taxation, argued that it was one of absolute necessity. Mr. SHIELD, dealing with the provisions of the Bill exempting corporations from the payment of income-tax, which he thought would be attended with great inconvenience, desired to know what would be their effect upon the Inns of Court and the colleges of Oxford and Cambridge. Mr. WHITLEY approved of the loan which was proposed, and Sir G. BALFOUR and Mr. ILLINGWORTH having continued the discussion, the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER promised to take Mr. Hubbard's suggestions into consideration, and, replying to Mr. CHILDERS, he explained that when he spoke of the limits of indirect taxation being reached he meant that in times of depression like these additional taxation would so far diminish consumption that the revenue would gain nothing. He justified the proposals as to the Sinking Fund on the ground that there never was a time in which it was more justifiable to suspend the pressure of the repayment of debt, and, while presenting the Budget as the best under the circumstances, he said that if the task of bringing forward the Budget next year fell to him—as he hoped it would—he trusted to be able to deal with it with with more satisfaction to himself. The amendment was then negatived, and the Bill was read a second time. The National Debt Bill passed through Committee, and the Exchequer and Treasury Bills Bill was read a second time.

On the motion for the second reading of the Medical Relief Disqualification Removal Bill, Mr. PELL moved an amendment deprecating a distinction being drawn between the receipt of medical relief and other relief, and in the course of a long speech vigorously protested against the enfranchisement of any class of paupers. Mr. COLLINGS inveighed against the administration of the Poor Law Guardians in this matter, and mentioned numerous cases in which the disfranchisement sought to be removed would operate harshly and unjustly. Mr. A. J. BALFOUR promised to bring in a clause which would meet the difficulties as to time, and tracing the history of the question, he showed that it had been four times before the House already, and three times the Liberal party had opposed it on principle. When at last they supported the principle it was on the mistaken supposition that it would affect one-fifth of the classes to be enfranchised. But having taken pains to ascertain the facts, he found that in 124 representative unions only 2·5 per 1,000 of the voters received medical relief for themselves or their families. In rural unions the cases were 2·2 per 1,000 and in the towns 2·7 per 1,000. There was no ground for supposing that this Bill would seriously injure the friendly societies, nor did the Government regard the disqualification as an iniquity, to use Mr. Chamberlain's language, or they would not have voted against it three times. Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, in a satirical vein, contrasted the conversion of the two parties on the question; and contended that while the Opposition had been convinced by the evidence of the large disfranchisement the disqualification would effect, the Ministerialists advocated the concession, while not believing in it, just to show the agricultural labourers that "Codlin is the friend, not Short." Mr. FINCH-HATTON expressed approval of the Bill, and ridiculed the inconsistency of the late Government; and Lord E. CAVENDISH maintained that the Bill would do considerable harm and take away one of the greatest safeguards to the poor law system. Mr. SCLATER-BOOTH thought the Bill had been brought in hurriedly, but to reject it now would do more harm than good, and if Mr. Balfour's figures could be trusted it was a matter of small importance. Mr. COURTNEY moved the adjournment, which was supported by Mr. PELL, Mr. BRODRICK, and Mr. J. G. TALBOT, and opposed by the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER and Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT. It was not pressed, and a division being taken on the main question, Mr. PELL'S amendment was negatived by 279 to 20, and the Committee was fixed for Tuesday.

Some further business was disposed of and the House adjourned at ten minutes past two o'clock.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

It is officially announced that a peerage has been conferred upon Sir R. Loyd-Lindsay, M.P., and also upon Sir W. B. Brett, Master of the Rolls.

The Queen has been graciously pleased to confer the honour of a baronetcy upon the Right Hon. R. N. Fowler, M.P., Lord Mayor of London, and upon Mr. Thomas Thornhill, M.P. for West Suffolk.

The polling for the vacancy in the representation of North Lincolnshire, caused by the elevation to the peerage of Mr. Rowland Winn, under the style of Lord St. Oswald of Nostell, took place yesterday week, the candidates being Mr. H. J. Atkinson (C) and Sir H. Meysey-Thompson (L). The result was made known on Saturday as follows:—Alderman Atkinson (C), 4,028; Sir H. Meysey-Thompson (L), 2,872; Majority, 1,156. At the last general election Mr. R. Laycock (L) headed the poll with 4,159 votes, Mr. Rowland Winn (C), the second candidate, polling 3,949, and Sir John Astley (C), 3,865. On the death of Mr. Laycock, Mr. James Lowther (C) was elected his successor, with 4,200 votes, to 3,729 recorded for Colonel Tomline (L).

Sir Henry Fletcher was nominated as member for Horsham on Wednesday by Mr. William Lintott, and seconded by Mr. A. Agate, and also by a second nomination filled up by working men. At one o'clock, there being no other candidate, Sir Henry was declared duly elected.

The *Standard* believes that the Government have now received such assurances from the European Powers as will enable them to proceed at once with the raising of the new Egyptian Loan. One of the conditions urged by Germany is that a third of the loan shall be placed in that country.

The following circular has been received by Conservative members of the House of Commons:—"*July* 16, 1885.—My Dear Sir,—A large number of the members of the House of Commons having signified their desire to present to the Earl of Iddesleigh some token of their esteem, it was decided to afford to all present and past members the opportunity of contributing to a fund for that purpose, and I am requested to inform you that subscriptions, limited to three guineas, will now be received by the Lord Mayor, Sir R. Fowler, Bart., and by Sir James M'Garel Hogg, Bart., who have consented to act as treasurers; or cheques may be sent to Messrs. Fowler, Dimsdale, and Co., bankers, Cornhill, E.C., to the credit of the fund. The form of the presentation is to be determined by a committee of the subscribers.—I am, yours faithfully, J. H. PULESTON."

Mr. W. H. Meredyth, the Conservative candidate for Swansea, having written to the Chancellor of the Exchequer for an expression of the intention of the Government with reference to Welsh intermediate education, has received the following reply:—"*House of Commons, July* 10, 1885.—Dear Sir,—I think my best reply to your letter will be to quote the observations which I made on Tuesday last on the subject of Welsh intermediate education in the House of Commons. I then said—speaking, of course, on behalf of the Government—that we appreciated the importance of the question, that we should devote our best attention to it during the interim, and that if it should be our lot, as it very likely will be, to be in office next session, that we should endeavour to deal with it.—I remain, yours faithfully, M. E. HICKS-BEACH."

On Saturday afternoon Mr. E. A. Leatham, M.P., opened at Milnsbridge, which is partly in and partly out of the borough of Huddersfield, a new Liberal club, which has been erected at a cost of about £1,100. At a public meeting in the evening, held in Milnsbridge new school, Mr. LEATHAM addressed the assembly. He remarked that it was impossible to exaggerate the importance of the great twin measure which had been the splendid work of this Parliament. The crisis was grave, for the country would be called upon to pronounce upon great issues, and to decide whether its confidence was to be given to those who had enfranchised it, or whether it was to be lavished on those who had opposed and retarded and endangered this measure of enfranchisement, and blackened and vilified the statesman whose crowning glory that great measure was. He held that the Government had been overthrown by the basest combination ever known in politics—a compact between Toryism and revolution. The late Government had no doubt made mistakes, and it was an essential condition of the fact that it was a popular Government that it should make mistakes and sometimes act from impulse. He believed it was a mistake to send General Gordon to Egypt, but it was not seen at the time. He referred in highly eulogistic terms to the heroic endeavours made to save General Gordon, and remarked, in reference to our Egyptian policy, that it must never be lost sight of that the Government knew all the while how black the clouds were that were gathered in the East, and the perils that awaited us in India. He denied that the late Government had sacrificed our honour and our prestige in their efforts to keep peace with Russia; they had, on the contrary, maintained the honour and the interests of the country under very difficult circumstances.

Sir E. J. REED, M.P., addressing a meeting at Rhondda on Wednesday evening in support of the candidature of Mr. F. Davies, said in the new Parliament there would be more need than ever for young men of independent means to give up their time and abilities to the service of the Liberal party. Men like himself, who had large professional responsibilities, found it hard even now to meet the pressing demands of Parliament. For young men of application, ability, and character, there was a fair chance of a future and of office, for which they could well afford to wait, for it should always be remembered that special qualifications were not now at all necessary. The appointments of Lord George Hamilton and Mr. W. H. Smith were cases in point. Mr. Smith was at the head of the Navy several years and got to know a very great deal about it, so he was made a Minister of War. Lord George Hamilton had had opportunities of acquiring experience in several other departments, but knew nothing whatever about the Navy, so he was made First Lord of the Admiralty. Then there was his own case. He (Sir Edward) had it on the highest authority that when the late Government was formed in 1880 there was some person so unskilled in official life as to suggest for him an office in the Admiralty, but the suggestion was indignantly repudiated. Some slight compliment was paid him to the effect that he was suitable for some other office, but certainly not for the Admiralty, because he knew too much about it. Dealing with the future, Sir Edward said that he was confident that coming legislation would tend to consolidate the greatness of England. He did not for a moment suppose that the people of this country would favour a policy of material decline on the ocean. The people would insist upon communication with our colonies and the maintenance of the great British Empire.

Mr. ASHMEAD-BARTLETT, M.P., addressing, on Wednesday, a meeting at Aylesbury, contrasted the state of affairs at the present moment with that of 1880. He treated the subject under five heads—trade and agriculture, Egypt, Afghanistan, South Africa, and Ireland. With regard to the first, he said that trade was more depressed now than five years ago. The Liberal Government had injured our commerce and trade by their shortsighted weakness in Afghanistan, in Egypt and the Soudan, in Madagascar, in South Africa, in the Chinese Seas, in India and the Pacific, and by their policy at home. They had left as a legacy to their successors a deficit of £25,000,000 to be met by the resources of England and India. This Heaven-sent Government had spent £55,000,000 more than the Conservatives in a like period. The agricultural interest was now realising in falling wages and straitened resources what Mr. Gladstone had done for the trade of the country. Taking the remaining heads of his discourse in order, Mr. Bartlett contrasted in each case the legacy which Mr. Gladstone declared had been left to him by Lord Beaconsfield's Government, and which he said was the origin of all the trouble and disgrace of the past five years, with the legacy which the present Government now received from the Liberals, the result of vacillation and cowardice.

The Right Hon. G. O. TREVELYAN, on Wednesday evening, addressed a Liberal meeting, at Leamington, in support of the candidature of the Speaker, Mr. Peel, for the united boroughs of Leamington and Warwick. Supporting a proposition approving the selection of Mr. Peel, he said it would be a bad omen for the future of this country and the world if the next Parliament were not conspicuous for the orderly and rational conduct of business, and nothing would reassure those who had these objects at heart so much as the certainty that in December next Mr. Peel would again be Speaker. He defended the course taken by the late Government in resigning office on being defeated. For years past the combination of Conservatives and Parnellites had been obstructing and worrying and delaying business, moving alternately the adjournment of the House and the adjournment of the debate, while the Liberal majority had been painfully and patiently endeavouring to carry on under these desperate circumstances the business of the country. After many unsuccessful votes of censure, on June 8 they got the Government in a minority. The Tories went into the business with a light heart, and brought in an amendment which killed the Budget and killed the possibility at any future time of calling upon the consumers to pay any portion of exceptional expenditure. He rejoiced that Mr. Gladstone had declined a peerage, preferring to stay in the Assembly where his great fame had been won and his transcendent services performed. Mr. Gladstone appealed from a Parliament representing half his countrymen to a Parliament which would represent the whole. Referring to his speech at the Eighty Club, Mr. Trevelyan said he had been accused of being over-sanguine as to the results of the coming election. In order to get a working majority in the House of Commons the Conservatives would have to win one hundred seats. It was not a question of preventing the Conservatives from having a majority, but of securing a strong Government able to deal with Irish affairs under the inspiration of justice, and not under the pressure of political necessity. Mr. Gladstone should go back to Westminster at the head of at least 360 Liberals. Every Liberal constituency should have but one candidate. The man who divided the party under any pretext whatever would do the greatest injury to Liberalism and the country. Lord Spencer and himself had laboured for three years to abate and reform the evils of Irish administration. Their success had been very considerable. Their most pressing duty had been to check crime, which was so rife all over the country, and restore a sense of security. They had restored order and re-established the authority of the law. That course had earned for Lord Spencer the hostility of the Parnellites. The Conservatives took advantage of this hostility, and, accepting the co-operation of the Parnellites, turned the Liberals out of office. The favourite topic in Conservative speeches and newspapers was a comparison between

the popularity of Lord Carnarvon, who, it was said, rode about Dublin in an open carriage without escort, and the unpopularity of Lord Spencer, who, however, had not worked with an eye to reward in the shape of praise or common gratitude. The jubiliation of the Conservatives mattered little to Lord Spencer, but it mattered much to the party who had been trying to govern Ireland. When the Conservatives united with the Parnellites to get rid of the Crimes Prevention Bill they might have done a smart thing; but no special legislation against crime would henceforth be possible in Ireland. Henceforth the business of statesmen, instead of endeavouring to procure legislation which would oblige the Irish people to acquiesce in the institutions of the country, would be to alter and reform those institutions as far as possible to secure the goodwill of the Irish people. In that task the great Minister who devised the Irish Land Act and the Irish Church Act would be a safer guide than those who once denounced Lord Spencer as truckling to rebellion, and who now jeered him as a baffled advocate of coercion. Whether the interests of Ireland should be entrusted to the hands of Mr. Gladstone or Lord Randolph Churchill was for the electors to decide.

Sir Edward Reed, M.P., speaking at the Cardiff Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, made a statement respecting a measure which the present Admiralty are contemplating as a means of strengthening the effective force of the Navy in the time of war. He said the proposal of the Admiralty is to establish a reserve of stokers and engine-room artificers, whose services will be available in war time for Her Majesty's ships, or for such auxiliary ships as the Government may employ. About 2,000 stokers and 200 engine-room artificers are the number contemplated in the first instance. He had been in communication with Admiral Vesey Hamilton on the subject, and it was not proposed, at least for the present, to call out the men of this reserve for drill, as only efficient men would be enrolled, but that a retainer or capitation grant would be paid to each man in consideration of his undertaking to hold himself at the disposal of the Government in the event of war being proclaimed. The amount of the retainer or capitation grant which would suffice for the purpose is one of the points upon which advice after inquiry was desired.

A meeting in support of the candidature of the Hon. Wallace Cochrane-Baillie, the Conservative candidate for North St. Pancras, was held on Thursday night at Stanley Hall. Colonel the Right Hon. F. A. Stanley, M.P., presided, and there were present, amongst others, Sir John Hay, M.P., and Mr. W. T. Marriott, M.P. The Chairman said that since the meeting had been arranged circumstances in connection with both political parties had changed. He stood there now as one of the colleagues of Lord Salisbury, and therefore spoke with a certain share of his responsibility. They stood in circumstances which were perhaps the most extraordinary that any political party had ever been placed in. The Government was avowedly in a minority in the representative House of Parliament, and held office alike by the forbearance of their opponents and by those qualities which had hitherto ensured them support. They succeeded to what he could not but call a legacy of disasters, and though they found themselves in a position of extreme difficulty, yet he trusted that during the time they would hold office till the general election they would be able to maintain their own principles and the honour and welfare of the Empire. One of the members of the late Government had called them a stopgap Government. Time alone would prove the truth of that statement, but, at all events, up to the present time they recognised with pride and satisfaction that there had been throughout the country a feeling strongly in favour of those who had accepted this task of difficulty and who intended to carry on the Government to the best of their ability. It was scarcely the time now to look back upon the shortcomings and mistakes of the late Government; they were going to be judged shortly by a greater tribunal. Let them not look to the past, but with confidence to the future. He asked them to put their shoulders to the wheel and do all they could to sustain the party in the great work which they had undertaken. Colonel Wilkinson proposed, and Mr. A. L. Clarke seconded, a resolution in support of the candidate. Mr. Marriott, in supporting the resolution, said there was no doubt that they were approaching a serious crisis in the coming election. The Radicals claimed their vote on the ground that the Liberal party had been their friends during the past fifty years. He quite admitted that benefits had been conferred upon them by the Liberal party; but he was not unmindful of benefits given them by the Conservative party. They were in the midst of great social legislation, which was practically begun under the Conservative rule of Sir Robert Peel. The Factory Acts and Acts affecting miners were chiefly passed under the Conservative Government, and the opponents of those Acts were the Radical manufacturers of Manchester, including Mr. Bright. It was a fact that all the Acts of Parliament affecting the hours of labour and the wages of the working classes, and to limit the dangers of those who worked in mines, were due to Conservative and not Liberal legislation. Again, that great measure advocated by Mr. Cobden and Mr. Bright, namely, the abolition of the Corn Laws, was put into law by Sir Robert Peel. With reference to the future, in his opinion the happiness and welfare of all classes depended more upon the proper administration of the affairs of the country, and upon a proper policy with regard to our foreign affairs and our colonies, than upon any amount of legislation. They had had notable examples of the result of bad administration under the late Government. The only defence he had heard made of Mr. Gladstone's foreign administration was that he was goaded on to do what he did by the Tory party. Fancy a statesman such as some of his Radical friends painted him being the Prime Minister of this empire, and responsible for its government and administration, and yet carrying out a policy of which he disapproved. The facts were written in blood that with regard to Egyptian affairs the administration had been such as to cause untold misery. For a proof of the bad administration of the Government in that matter he pointed to the diary of General Gordon, which he contended furnished the strongest condemnation of the late Government. The resolution was carried.

Mr. Childers on Thursday received the following letter from Mr. Gladstone, who was prevented by hoarseness from attending in the House of Commons to take part in the debate on the Budget:—"1, *Richmond-terrace, Whitehall, July* 16. My dear Childers,—The financial experience of the present Session is so full of importance and of warning to parties too eager in opposition, that although I am prevented from taking part in the debate of this evening I wish to say a few words upon the subject. Although I consider that our indirect taxation still has, all circumstances considered, a rather unduly large proportion to our taxes upon property, it is an essential element in our system, and it seems most unwise for Parliament to weaken its hold upon that instrument. In the debate of June 8 we warned the Opposition, but in vain, that their motion, aimed at us, would strike a blow at indirect taxation. This result has been accomplished without delay. The whole of the new taxation proposed by the Tory Government is to be supplied by property, and the future force of this precedent supplied by a Tory Government will not be inconsiderable. Further, my apprehension is that the effect must be very greatly aggravated by the gratuitous declaration of the Chancellor of the Exchequer on Monday, that the extreme limit of indirect taxation has been reached upon all great articles already taxed. He excepted tea, but such an exception, in my view, rather adds to than diminishes the mischief. I sincerely hope he may reconsider an opinion perhaps due to the haste and pressure consequent on accession to office. I have no doubt that you will also regret that the Budget will make an addition to the National Debt under circumstances which hardly warrant it.—Sincerely yours, W. E. Gladstone.

Some correspondence has passed between Mr. W. Burdett-Coutts and the secretary of the Westminster Local Option Union. Mr. Burdett-Coutts, having been applied to by Mr. W. Richards, secretary of the Union, to receive a deputation on the question of local option, replied that he made it a rule in political matters to confine himself to the constituency he was standing for, and that if Mr. Richards was an elector of Westminster, and represented other electors of that borough, he would be happy to see them. He called especial attention to this point, as the first condition of his entering political life was that he should be responsible to the electors of Westminster alone. Mr. Richards, without referring to this point, then asked if the deputation might include the representatives of the United Kingdom Alliance, whose London offices were within the limits of Westminster. Mr. Burdett-Coutts in his reply again called attention to the necessity of the deputation being restricted to those to whom, as candidate for the Parliamentary suffrage of Westminster, he held himself directly responsible. Mr. Richards thereupon wrote a letter, submitting that the principle thus laid down in regard to deputations was entirely contrary to the traditions and customs of our Parliamentary system. To this letter Mr. Burdett-Coutts sent a reply, in the course of which he declined to admit that the fact of any association commissioned from other parts of the country having, by accident or convenience, its "London office" in Westminster gave it a title to represent that constituency, except in the persons of individual members who were electors of the borough. The correspondence was supplemented by two more letters, in which Mr. Burdett-Coutts reiterated his point, while Mr. Richards contended that any residents in a borough should be allowed to attend on a deputation to the candidate, whether they occupied dwelling-houses or offices only. Those whom he represented had many influential supporters in Westminster who could have attended the deputation, but he argued that the representatives of the London auxiliary of the United Kingdom Alliance, who were qualified as residents by reason of the offices having been for many years in Westminster should not be prohibited, while other residents with similar qualifications would be received. Mr. Burdett-Coutts finally left it to the people of Westminster to judge upon the question raised.

The following is the text of the Government Bill to prevent medical relief from disqualifying a person from voting:—

"Be it enacted by the Queen's Most Excellent Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Lords spiritual and temporal and Commons, in this present Parliament assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows (that is to say):—

"1. This Act may be cited as the Medical Relief Disqualification Removal Act, 1885.

"2. (1) Where a person has in any part of the United Kingdom received for himself, or for any member of his family, any medical or surgical assistance, or any medicine at the expense of any poor rate, such person shall not by reason thereof be deprived of any right to be registered or to vote either—(*a*) as a Parliamentary voter; or (*b*) as a voter at any municipal election; or (*c*) as a burgess; or (*d*) as a voter at any election to an office under the provisions of any statute; but nothing in this section shall apply to the election—(*a*) of any guardian of the poor; or (*b*) of any member of any parochial board in Scotland; or (*c*) of any other body acting in the distribution of relief to the poor from the poor rate. (2) Every person shall be qualified to be registered as a voter and to vote as aforesaid who would be so qualified if the provisions of this Act had come into force on July 15, 1884."

A curious question has arisen in connection with the Redistribution Act. The Franchise Act leaves freemen undisturbed in possession of their electoral right. But some boroughs where freemen have hitherto voted—Carrickfergus, for instance—are merged in the counties, and the freemen want to know whether they are thereby disfranchised. The opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown has been sought on the point.

The revenue receipts from April 1 to the 11th inst. amount to £22,938,160, or £186,550 more than the £22,751,610 received in the corresponding period ending July 12, 1884. The expenditure up to the 11th inst. was £28,959,954, being £3,293,687 more than the expenditure for the similar period of 1884-5. The balances on the 11th inst. amounted to £2,295,103, and on July 12, 1884, were £1,767,855.

Mr. Arthur Arnold, M.P., has submitted to Mr. Bright the following programme for an agitation on the subject of land tenure:—1. Abolition of the law of primogeniture. 2. Abolition of copyhold and customary tenure. 3. Prohibition of settlement of land upon unborn persons, and of the general power of creating life estates in land. 4. Conveyance by registration of title. All interests in the property registered to be recorded. 5. Provision for the sale of encumbered settled property. Mr. Arnold says:—"The extension in principle and under proper safeguards of the Purchase Clauses of Irish Land Acts to Great Britain and the enfranchisement of leaseholds are practical matters which should be admitted to full and fair consideration. More than 2,000,000 acres of the best land are held by corporations in mortmain. This tenure involves serious evils, including absentee ownership in perpetuity, and a most unjust exemption from taxation. I have met with no exposition of this policy more concise and acceptable than is contained in your own words: 'We would so change our laws as to give to every present generation an absolute control over the soil, free from the paralysing influences which afflict it now, from the ignorance, the folly, the obstinacy, or the pride of generations which have passed away.'" Mr. Bright has written back:—"The time has come when the new great land question must be discussed and settled. It is well that some plans, just to the nation and not less just to the possessors of the land, should be brought before the attention of our people. In the suggestions which you have submitted to me you offer such a plan, and I cannot but hope that it will receive, as I believe it will deserve, a very large measure of support throughout the country. There have been wild schemes brought before some portions of our people, schemes not based on any just principle; your suggestions seem to me just, and calculated to do good to landowner, to tenant-farmer, to the industrious labourer on the soil, and to the millions whose families subsist upon its produce.

It has been proposed by many friends of Earl Spencer belonging to the Liberal party to invite him to a banquet, in order to testify their admiration of his self-denial, patriotism, and unswerving courage in the discharge of the arduous duties of Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. It is probable that July 24 will be the date fixed for the banquet. Upwards of a hundred members of the House of Commons have expressed their desire to attend.

A Conservative gathering was on Wednesday held in the grounds attached to Berkeley Castle, lent for the occasion by Lord Fitzhardinge. Sir Michael Hicks-Beach wrote as follows to the chairman of the meeting:—"*House of Commons, July* 13, 1885. Dear Mr. Gwynett,—I am very sorry that it is not possible for me, on account of my duties to be present at the Conservative demonstration which will be held on Wednesday at Berkeley Castle. Your gathering will be remarkable not only for the numbers who, as I hear, are likely to attend it, but also on account of the place at which it is held and the circumstances of the political situation. In both of them you will, I am sure, find encouragement for the future of the Constitutional party. It is notorious that the failures of the late Government and its eventful fall are due rather to internal dissensions than to the attacks of its adversaries. With every day that passes the dissensions in the Liberal party seem to increase, and moderate Liberals all over the country are quitting a party whose doctrines and whose practices they can no longer recognise as their own, and joining hands with Conservatives in defending Constitutional liberty and maintaining the honour and interests of our country. The recent elections are, I believe, but a forecast of what may happen in the autumn if we do our duty in the struggle that is before us, and such a meeting as you hold on Wednesday should strengthen the hands of every Conservative in Gloucestershire for a fight on the issue of which will depend in no slight degree the future destinies of England."

STORY OF THE SOUDAN CAMPAIGN.

Mr. Bennet Burleigh (special war correspondent of the *Daily Telegraph*) on Wednesday, in the St. James's Great Hall, Piccadilly, gave a lecture, entitled "The True Story of the Terrible Soudan Campaign." There was a large audience, which welcomed the lecturer very cordially. Mr. Burleigh said he was going to confine his narrative to what came under his personal observation. He intended to relate the facts with all plainness, and he disclaimed standing there as a politician. After briefly alluding to the incidents preliminary to the mission of Gordon, the lecturer said the Government wanted a miracle-worker to undertake their behests. They found him in skilful, unselfish, straightforward, heroic Charles George Gordon. At a moment's notice, and with only one companion, he started for Khartoum. His instructions, as stated by Mr. Gladstone, were for the purpose of evacuating the country, extricating the Egyptian garrisons, and reconstituting authority by giving back to the Sultans their ancestral government. This was an exceedingly tall order. After recounting the incidents leading up to the despatch of the Nile boat expedition, the lecturer contrasted the different rate of speed between the "nuggars" and the Nile boats—the facility of getting the one over the cataracts and the difficulty of getting the others. If they had depended upon the whalers to bring up supplies to Dongola the men would have starved. The lecturer described the hardships of the voyage from Dongola to Korti. The capabilities of the whaleboats were overrated, and the difficulties of the river understated. Bronzed with exposure, stale with toil, with lacerated hands, ragged clothes, and worn-out boots, our soldiers eventually reached Korti. The cheery Lord Wolseley spent his Christmas in the "great keep-it-dark continent" at Korti, where 2,300 English soldiers had arrived. Most of these had got there on camel-back, and up the Nile by nuggars; but very few in the whaleboats. Lord Wolseley had said that Khartoum was to be relieved by January 7, and had that occurred Gordon would have been alive now. The letters of Gordon left no room for ignorance; but the Government's example was contagious. Out of the 800 whaleboats comprising the flotilla, 200 of them—no more—had got to Korti by the end of December. The Nile had fallen very low, and the rapids and shoals were multiplying. Alluding to the difficulty of obtaining transport, the lecturer said that whether it influenced Lord Wolseley in sending a small force across the desert he knew not, but four times were orders issued for stopping the buying of camels, and four times were they cancelled, each time throwing the whole of the arrangements into such confusion that it was impossible to rehabilitate them. Alluding to the Camel Corps, the lecturer gave a humorous description of the difficulties attending the mounting of the beasts. The flower of the British service was represented in the rank and file of this corps. To see a camel was not to love it, and to make its closer acquaintance was to dislike if not to hate it. A man to mount it had to make an inverted pendulum of himself, and to spend a lot of time in the air. It was a soldier who said to a sailor, "Hi, Jack, don't bump so much, you will make his head ache." The lecturer then described the march from Korti to Metammeh. Prior to the march his friend and co-correspondent, Mr. Cameron, agreed with him that serious opposition awaited them. Under the conviction that he would fall upon the desert march he wrote two letters—one to his editor and another to his mother. Twelve days before the fall of Khartoum, Sir Herbert Stewart resumed his march upon Metammeh—still seventy-six miles off. Had he suspected the urgency of the situation, he was not the man to have delayed two hours, much less two days. Was the full significance of the facts obscured and minimised in his case as in everybody else's? Mr. Burleigh then proceeded to give a graphic account of Abu Klea, and bore tribute to the gallant and heroic conduct of the late Colonel Fred. Burnaby, the mention of whose name evoked considerable enthusiasm from the audience. The lecturer also gave a thrilling account of the death of that distinguished officer, and the determined opposition afforded by the enemy was also vividly pictured. Much applause broke forth when the lecturer referred to the victory which might have been decisively won had not hundreds of cartridges been jammed in the rifles. As a result of this jamming the fire was, of course, rendered weak and irregular, and of much smaller effect than it would have otherwise been. The square was a square no longer, but a mass of men all fighting for their lives—the Guards and the mounted infantry fighting back to back. Countless deeds of heroism were done, officers and men vieing with each other in rescuing wounded comrades. He saw Colonel Burnaby after his death. His face wore a calm smile, and near him lay his gallant defender, Corporal Mackintosh. After alluding to the advance of the flying column after the attack at Abu Klea, the lecturer said that Sir Charles Wilson, the Chief of the Intelligence Department, succeeded to the command of the column after Sir Herbert Stewart had been wounded. He was commissioned to tell Gordon that he must not expect the whaleboats with the expeditionary force to reach Metammeh before the first week of March. Therefore whatever happened to Gordon it would have been proved that these boats could go up the Nile. The lecturer made a feeling reference to the burial of Messrs. Cameron and St. Leger Herbert, and alluded to the proposed departure with two steamers from Metammeh on Jan. 23 of Sir Charles Wilson with some officers, some men of the Royal Sussex Regiment, and no surgeon. The start was proposed to be made on the 23rd, but it was delayed until the next morning, "want of food" being the excuse. He (Mr. Burleigh offered to go with him in any capacity, but the proposal was flatly declined. The consternation of those outside Metammeh when the failure of this expedition was announced was intense. In England, however, the Government broke it gently, bit by bit. The soldiers outside Metammeh mourned for Gordon, the man whose genius and daring had for a year baffled the rebels and kept Khartoum. They had braved dangers and death for this ending! Oh, the wasted lives! Such was the rage of the men that, if the soldiers had been able to lay hands upon the political agents responsible for the loss of so many gallant lives, the men of words would have fared badly at the hands of the men of action. Wilson's steamers had about one hundred miles to go. Stoppage for wood and the state of the Nile delayed them greatly, but why should we attach significance to the delay of a few hours when months had been wasted? Referring to the Nile railway, the lecturer said that, if it was ever finished, for practical purposes it would be about as useful as a railroad in the moon. The line ran through a wilderness of rocks, wild and barren—a perfect abomination of desolation. Gordon had placed on record the words, "This railway is wrongly chosen." Irresponsible and halting purposes and unsettled plans had made the Soudan a bloody battle-field and a graveyard, from which there would be no ultimate benefit in the shape of the resurrection of English life and treasure, not to speak of slain Arabs. There still remained in Egypt the uncrushed Mahdi and Osman Digna, who would be nice nest-eggs for future British enterprise. The only solace in this campaign was the proof that the colonists were our younger brothers and our fellow-countrymen. Canadian boatmen helped our soldiers on the Nile; bearded, brawny Australian volunteers fought with our soldiers at Tamai and Souakim. They spoke and acted like citizens of the great England upon whose empire the sun never sets. The time had fully come when, hearing threats from despotic Powers, England should take the measure of her own as well as of her opponents' strength. The Anglo-Saxon race numbered ninety millions, and was bound by many ties. In conclusion, Mr. Burleigh hoped these ties might be cemented and solidified even more strongly than at present.

The Marquis of Exeter, the Earl of Romney, and Lord Annesley visited the National Fish Culture Establishment at Delaford-park, Iver, Bucks, on Wednesday. They were shown over the fishery by Mr. W. Oldham Chambers, director and secretary, who pointed out the various breeding and rearing ponds, which are now well stocked with valuable specimens of salmonidæ, whitefish, catfish, &c. Particular attention was paid to the success gained in acclimatising the whitefish of America, which hitherto has baffled all attempts made in this direction.

Painted windows as a memorial of departed worth and gallantry have an interest in the eyes of all. Mr. W. G. Taylor has at all times pleasure in showing his works in progress, both for church and hall, the introduction of likenesses in windows being a special study. Designs and estimates sent. Medal awarded to works in Paris Exhibition.—The "Art" Works, 4, Berners-street, London, W.

THE WAKEFIELD BISHOPRIC FUND.

A large meeting assembled in the Egyptian Hall of the Mansion-house on Tuesday in support of the Wakefield Bishopric Fund for the formation of a Bishopric out of the See of Ripon. It was expected that Lord Salisbury and other members of the new Cabinet would be present, but a Cabinet Council prevented the attendance of the Premier, of Lord Cranbrook, and of Sir Richard Cross. Lord Fitzwilliam, K.G., presided, and there were present Lord Brabazon, Lord St. Oswald, the Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, the Bishop of Newcastle, the Bishop of Ripon, the Bishop of Brisbane, Sir F. Milbank, M.P., Mr. Beresford-Hope, M.P., Mr. E. Greene, M.P., the Dean of Llandaff (Dr. Vaughan), the Rev. T. Teignmouth Shore, Mr. W. S. Stanhope, the Rev. Canon M'Coll, Archdeacon Hessey, the Rev. Canon Gregory, the Rev. Dr. Brymer Belcher, and others. The meeting was opened with prayer.

Lord Fitzwilliam remarked that it had been quite clear for some time past that the welfare of Yorkshire needed the division of the diocese of Ripon, in support of which this meeting was called, and as a Yorkshireman he was rejoiced to be present that day. All Yorkshire was anxious to promote the division, and it was hoped that the purpose would receive more force by being thus presented in the metropolis to those interested in the progress of religion. The population in the part of Yorkshire now to be dealt with had increased so rapidly of late years that the Church could not be allowed to stand still; it must move forward in order to meet the wants of a vastly increased and increasing flock, and he had no doubt that success in every way would attend the work thus begun.

The Bishop of Ripon, who was called upon to make a statement, said he was aware that in London practical statements were required. In Yorkshire the people were doing their utmost in furtherance of this new See, and they asked London as the centre of the Church and of the Empire to assist them in erecting the new Bishopric. The present diocese was larger in area and population combined than any other diocese in England, and thus its work was, owing to the character and extent of the county, carried on amid great difficulty. With the view held by some persons that there were many things to be done in the Church of England he had much sympathy, and especially had he sympathy with the desire that the value of small livings should be raised. He contended that the sub-division of Bishoprics, so far from harming those projects, would assist them, as the overwork of the heads of the Church in the superintendence of large and widely-placed districts left little energy or time to be devoted to special and urgent objects. In respect to the money needed for the work of providing the new diocese, he stated that there was an error in the declaration that £100,000 was required. The sum wanted was £90,000, of which half was in hand. Yorkshire had been doing her best to raise the amount. A meeting in Wakefield brought £10,000; Dewsbury, £8,000; Bradford, £4,000; Huddersfield, £5,000, and other towns were doing their best, though suffering from great depression of trade. In conclusion he pleaded for the support of London to the proposal.

The Archbishop of Canterbury said he was extremely glad to support this work, but he found it difficult to speak of the advantages which he had seen had resulted from the division of the See of Exeter and the creation of that of Cornwall, because he was himself associated with that work. His Grace then proceeded to urge that the progress of the Church throughout the world had been according to the increase of the Episcopate—an increase which had given to different centres of activity able men as the champions of the Church. The principle upon which the Church worked in this directton came down from Apostolic times, and he contended that the Church work was best done by the organisation in each diocese which was headed by the Bishop. Having spoken of the need of Church work in Yorkshire, and referred to the different aspect of Cornwall before and after the erection of the Bishopric of Truro, he said that since that division of the See of Exeter there had been a vast change which had been welcomed alike by Church people and Nonconformists. Nothing, however, his Grace said, could be done without the "Golden Key," and to show how reproductive was the expenditure in Church work, he mentioned that when the Truro Bishopric was founded the subscriptions in Cornwall to Church purposes amounted to £26,000 a year, while now they amounted to nearly double that sum. He warmly supported the object of making Wakefield a Cathedral centre.

Lord Brabazon, who was received with cheers, remarked that it was apparent that the spiritual needs of Yorkshire required this increase of an Episcopate, and that while the Church of England took the lead in all good work, increase of her episcopal centres would be necessary.

The Rev. A. J. Ingram, one of the honorary secretaries of the fund, stated that he had received letters from Lord Salisbury, Lord Cranbrook, and Sir Richard Cross in excuse of absence owing to a Cabinet Council. The Archbishop of York, Lord Devon, Lord Wharncliffe, and the Dean of Westminster were also unable to attend.

Mr. Beresford-Hope, M.P., remarked that the effect of the work now in hand was to crown the edifice of the six bishoprics which Parliament had sanctioned, and he looked upon the completion of this task as a point from which they might make a stand for a seventh bishopric—that of Bristol. Having expressed the hope that London would assist in the work, as it was well able to do, he concluded by making a graceful reference to the honour just bestowed upon the Lord Mayor, and by moving a vote of thanks to his lordship for the use of the Guildhall.

The Bishop of London, who had not long arrived, seconded the motion, and spoke forcibly in support of the object of the meeting.

Lord St. Oswald supported the motion, and

The vote was carried *nem con.*

Sir F. Milbank, M.P., moved, and Mr. Greene, M.P., seconded, a vote of thanks to Lord Fitzwilliam.

The motion having been carried by acclamation,

Mr. Beresford-Hope announced that his lordship had subscribed the sum of £1,000 to the object of the meeting, which then concluded with prayer.

Convocation.

PROVINCE OF CANTERBURY.

The last meeting of the Convocation of Canterbury for the present session was held yesterday week at Westminster.

UPPER HOUSE.

The Bishops met in Queen Anne's Bounty Office, the Archbishop presiding. There were present the Bishops of London, Winchester, Gloucester and Bristol, Norwich, Hereford, St. Albans, Oxford, St. Asaph, Chichester, Llandaff, and St. Davids.

The Archbishop stated that he had received a letter from the Home Secretary in reply to the note of the Upper House and a resolution urging that the Criminal Law Amendment Bill, which had passed the House of Lords, should be passed through the House of Commons. The Home Secrerary stated that the views of the Upper House of Convocation should have his best consideration. The late Home Secretary, Sir W. Harcourt, too, had written to say that he had been anxious to pass the Bill this session, and he believed that it would be accepted.

The House then dealt with the subject of ecclesiastical dilapidations and fire insurance. The subject had been before the Lower House, and the views held by the Lower House were concurred in by their Lordships. The matter of first-fruits and tenths also received attention on a proposal that a question of their re-adjustment should be brought before the clergy in the diocese.

Their Lordships sat in Committee for some time, and then a report was presented on divorce. The report stated that the Committee had examined many authorities, whom it recited, and had examined the canons of the Councils which had dealt with the matter. The Committee found that some of the Early Fathers had allowed re-marriage in the case of innocent persons, and the action of the Church of England had not always been uniform. The Committee advised the House to make the following declaration:

That, in a case where the sin of adultery shall have been fully proved before a competent Court and a decree of divorce shall have been obtained, the innocent party so set free ought to be advised not to re-marry during the lifetime of the guilty party; that if, however, the innocent party shall re-marry, the charity of the Church requires that the ministrations of the Church shall not be withheld from the person so re-married, or from the person with whom the marriage shall have been contracted. That in case of the re-marriage of the guilty person the ministrations of the Church ought not to be granted, saving, however, that the Bishop shall have the power, after personal investigation, to give such directions in any case of penitence as he shall consider most consonant with the teaching of Holy Scripture and the usual practice of the primitive Church.

Discussion was postponed until a future meeting.

The House sat in Committee in the afternoon, and eventually concluded with prayer.

In the Lower House—held in College-hall, near Westminster Abbey, Lord Alwyne Compton presiding, all the reports of committees, as well as other business, for the first time for more than 20 years, were cleared off the paper.

A SURREY BROOK.

We have it on excellent authority that the upper course of the Tillingbourne is "horridly agreeable and romantic." The little stream has its rise amidst sundews and dwarf willows at no great distance from the summit of that "hub" of Surrey, Leith Hill. The southern face of this hill runs steeply down to the Weald; its long northern slope is thick with woods and full of delightful little valleys. Down one of the prettiest of these flows the infant Tillingbourne. The whole of this upland district has a charming wildness. Its hills are high enough for dignity, and for the main roads to avoid them; there are no villages, and only a few cottages are scattered about amongst the heaths and woodlands that form the greater part of its surface. Black game still lingers on the heights, and a few years ago the sportsman might flush a kangaroo; some of these animals having escaped from Wotton House and bred in the coverts. Amongst the legends of the neighbourhood is one of the simultaneous chase of a stag and a kangaroo.

After a mile or two of babbling down its narrow moorland valley, the little peat-tinged Tillingbourne swirls in amongst the big timber of a park, and is straightway made to form a chain of pools with a murmuring cascade at each link. On the right is the waterfall of the neighbourhood, sporting gaily down its fifty feet of shelves. Around it are the ruddy boles of fir and a manifold greenery of hanging branch and moss and fern; but some recent repairs have needlessly accented its artificial character, and a notice-board sadly mars the general effect. These waterworks—there are fountains and placid basins farther on—were fashioned by a Dutch merchant, who, in 1740, built a house near at hand, and named it "Lonesome." A little judicious trespassing brings us to Wotton House, the home of the Evelyns, whose very walls are washed by the Tillingbourne. Here "Sylva" Evelyn was born; here he spent many summers; here he set up his hermitage; but it was only during the last few years of his long life that he was the actual possessor of the estate. The mansion is still "sweetly environed" with "venerable woods;" but, with the exception of the E-shaped courtyard, it cannot be said to be very interesting or imposing. On its southern side is a terraced monticle that Evelyn mentions, and to the north are outbuildings that might be mistaken for an early Georgian church. Near at hand there are wonderful beech-woods, and a rough uphill road through one of these forms a matchless piece of sylvan scenery.

Beyond Wotton our brook joins the main valley that runs from Dorking to Guildford. In the glades that open on either side are tall thickets of a plant that is generally distributed over England, but is rarely to be found in such profusion as here. This is the "great French willow-herb," or "fireweed," as it is called in Canada, where it comes up abundantly amidst the charred *débris* of forest fires. In the autumn its long spikes of rosy blossom are succeeded by a fine silk that floats away with every puff of breeze. Within the next mile there are several glassy mill-ponds with borders of sedge and reed-mace, and above these the house-martins are flitting excitedly and with something of the tumbling motion of rooks before a high wind. At a cress-bed—and there are many of these down the valley—a man in high boots is solemnly raking myriads of a small black beetle from among the cresses. Between this and Gomshall the stream runs more nearly under the chalk downs—pale green slopes etched with furze and now and then a yew, and well-covered with woods farther on. The wayside is pleasant, too, with picturesque cottages: there is rich colour upon them, of lichen, of weather-tiling, of timber framework, of time-softened brickwork. Such dwellings are plentiful in southern Surrey, and they are inhabited by a peasantry as colourless and typeless as is to be found in the three kingdoms. From Gomshall to Shiere there are lofty elms on either side of the road, and on the left is the glint of the Tillingbourne, broadening here and there into a mill-pond. One mill, a favourite subject with sketchers, looks like a relic of a castle that has condescended to be useful. But it only dates from a degenerate age, when a sham ruin was thought a proper ornament for every gentleman's park.

Who shall describe Shiere, with its shambling church leaning on mossy buttresses, its cosy inn with great elms before the door, its confusion of gables, its ancient walls on which grasses wave and the wall-rue clings, its coronal of Scotch firs, its gardens, where everything grows as lushly as in a Devonshire combe? The place is so leafy and so sheltered by hills, that it is at once warm and damp. There are bracing airs, however, on the chalk downs, and breezes upon Shiere Heath with its swells of fern and pine clusters. The district is full of lanes, worn deep into the greensand by the rains of centuries; and over these the beeches hang and the hazles curve their sprays, whilst fern and campion flourish on the shaded banks. Nor must the artists be forgotten; Shiere is an English Barbizon, and white umbrellas are as plentiful as mushrooms thereabouts.

Beyond Shiere our brook runs through Albury Park and past the dismantled parish church of Albury that stands upon the ducal lawn. On the northern bank is the Irvingite Cathedral to which "angel and "apostle" came by coach in the pre-railroad days. Across some green meadows comes sparkling a tiny tributary that flows out from the famous Silent Pool. This pool, with its marvellously clear waters tinged with a metallic blue, is well worth a discursion. One can see every spot of its trout and every filament of its emerald water-weeds as distinctly as though they were in air. Beyond the pool, the main road to Guildford climbs a long juniper-dotted slope and skirts one of the few remains of primeval forest that are still left in England—a sombre little woodland of yew, dwarf oak, whitethorn, and holly. Near Albury village, snug in that narrow vale which Cobbett thought "exquisitely beautiful," the Tillingbourne now flows; the prominent feature in the landscape here being the lofty isolated hill of St. Martha's, with its girdle of woods and the cruciform church standing boldly out on its bare summit. St. Martha and All Martyrs is near the track of the old Pilgrim's Way to Canterbury that is marked by a broken line of yew-trees upon the neighbouring downs, and it was probably not only a pilgrim station but also a church to which pilgrimages were made. In early summer you may find the meadow saxifrage growing amidst its graves and down the close turf of the slopes. In the valley below are several large heads of water formed from the Tillingbourne, and reflecting delightful hangers. These mark the site of an old industry of Chilworth, the making of gunpowder. John Evelyn mentions that there were formerly powder-mills near Wotton, and claims that his ancestors "were the very first who brought that invention into England." Aubrey states that the first powder-mill was at Chilworth, and Chilworth was certainly the great seat of the gunpowder manufacture in England in the seventeenth century; the mills turning out at one time as much as 325 barrels a week. "'Tis a little Commonwealth of powder-makers," says Aubrey, "who are as black as negroes." The "romancy vale" of the Tillingbourne had in his time not only powder-mills, but also corn, brass, iron, and fulling mills. It still has a fair number of mills, in spite of the supersession of water-power for so many purposes.

With Chilworth the Tillingbourne has nearly run its course; it washes the base of the broken ridge of the Chantries, and, passing the straggling village of Shalford, runs through level meadows to its junction with the darker waters of the Wey. This takes place at a spot nearly opposite to the ruined St. Catherine's that Turner has glorified in his "Liber Studiorum." An insignificant stream, but one that flows through a country of most varied charm, and without a dull mile from end to end of it. Nor will it be thought a disadvantage by a London pilgrim, that, even when "sober suns must set at five o'clock," the pilgrimage of the Tillingbourne may be easily done in a day.—*St. James's Gazette.*

SMART FROCKS.

With the brilliant weather of the last few days a large crop of pretty gowns has made its appearance in all the fashionable resorts. Though not very many of these, perhaps, show any very striking novelty, yet the majority are pleasing in colour and unaggressive in form. The material of the year is canvas, and the colour yellow. The season began with a violent bursting-forth of green, in emulation of the fresh verdure of Nature's own garb. This has been succeeded by a perfect bloom of soft, pale yellow, a tint that, when pure in tone, can be worn by blonde and brune alike with impunity. The brunette till lately considered it as peculiarly her own; but some three or four years ago a lovely lady, whose golden-brown hair frames in a face whose colouring is superbly fair, and as free from insipidity as from floridity, ventured on one occasion to wear a gown of gold brocade, with amber beads and yellow fillets in the hair. Every blonde who attended her reception went home with thoughts intent on a yellow frock. Since then the colour has been advancing by degrees in popular favour, and this year it finds its apotheosis. The true Chinese imperial yellow is a magnificent colour. Looking on it one can readily understand why the children of the Flowery Land call it the "eldest daughter of light." It is like sunshine itself on a dull day, and if any one possesses a hopelessly dark and mournful room, facing north perhaps, let them cover the furniture with imperial yellow and the walls with pale gold. Every ray of light will be caught and held, and a sunny radiance will replace the repellent coldness of the previous aspect. With a carpet or rugs in tones of oak, from pale to dark, the room would be perfect, not only in itself, but as a background for the fashionable tints of frocks this season.

In one of the most successful gowns lately seen, says the *Daily News*, the ground is pale lemon-coloured satin, veiled with pale grey net, which bears a burden of exquisite embroidery in grey pearls and spangles mixed with smaller beads of steel. The design is large and flowing, with wide spaces between the flowers and leaves. Through these appears the pale yellow of the satin, which contrasts effectively with the tones of lead, steel, and dark pearl-colour of the embroidery. The panels thus wrought with beads fall in points over a skirt of dark-grey velvet, while folded draperies of pale grey faille fall gracefully from the waist over both. The edge of the skirt has a ruche of pinked-out silk in pale grey and lemon-colour, which resemble a drift of fallen leaves blown together by a sudden gust of wind.

Another gown of the Goodwood order has an underskirt of very pale eau-de-nil silk, with more yellow in the colour than is usual. This deliciously cool tint is seen through the meshes of soft black lace which forms an overskirt, and is arranged in pleats that extend from the waist to the feet. These folds are at intervals held down by ornaments of very finely-cut jet. Short paniers of the lace give a tasteful finish to the top of the skirt, and at the back a sash of green watered silk falls over the lace. The bodice is of moiré similar to the sash, and is covered with lace, braces of the moiré crossing the shoulders and narrowing towards the waist both in front and at the back. One of the Princess Beatrice's wedding gowns is highly original, both in colour and make. The materials consist of a Royal tartan made in velvet to the Queen's special order, and satin of the yellowest shade of apple-green. Some of the tones of green in the velvet tartan are dark and beautiful. A slender line of dull red adds to its beauty, but so much can scarcely be said for the bands of screaming blue which cross the green. The whole is toned down by the graduated lines of black that form one of the checks. The mode of making proves how much art can do towards evolving a wearable gown from a fabric that is loud and inartistic. Panels of the apple-green satin are arranged in pleats at either side of the skirt, and the plain bodice has a vest of the green satin, softened by a loosely-falling vest of cream-coloured silk muslin. Without this kindly veil the green would be inimical to almost any complexion, but as it is it tones down the self-assertive blue.

The disposition to trim light materials with velvet is very apparent this season, and occasionally results in successful frocks. A white serge turned out by Redfern, and trimmed with dark-green velvet revers, and a band of the same round the edge of the skirt, is a good example. So is a gown of tussore silk, the skirt of which is edged with a wide band of emerald-green velvet. A high collar, also of the velvet, and short turned-back cuffs of the same, carry out the idea, which is further illustrated by a shady hat of Tuscan straw, the brim of which is lined with emerald velvet, and the crown surrounded by a garland of leaves intermingled with poppies and yellow marguerites. Velvet is also adapted as panels to dresses made of lace, whether the latter be white, cream-coloured, or of the soft beige tint that is so much in favour this year. A canvas dress in this colour was trimmed round the skirt with a wide scarf of Turkish embroidery. This was laid on flat, beginning about three inches above the edge of the dress, and extending to the knee. The canvas was mounted in very wide pleats. A second scarf formed a panier on the right side, and, being continued from the waist up the front of the bodice, had the effect of a gathered waistcoat. One end was utilised as a collar, so that the whole dress was warmed into brilliant colour by the skilfully-managed introduction of two or three embroidered scarves.

Dresses of white gauze, striped with white satin and divided into strips by rows of lace insertion, are infinitely light and cool in effect. One of these was worn by a French lady at the Grand Prix, and was one of the most admired dresses there. It was "built" by a London house. Many of these light gowns are sent home with two bodices, one of the same material as the skirt, to be worn on hot days, and the other of green velvet, warm and acceptable on colder days of our uncertain climate. Sleeveless velvet jackets are much used for the purpose of slipping on readily and easily over the lace or canvas bodice. On the other hand, lace jackets or polonaises, with transparent elbow sleeves, are useful for transforming a lace or gauze skirt into a correct dinner dress. If the skirt be white or cream-coloured, the jacket must be of the same tint; and black ones are equally useful with a black lace, satin, or canvas skirt. A good instance of a thoroughly useful dress is found in the following:—The skirt is of apple-green silk dotted with velvet bows of dark moss-green. Over this falls a gracefully-draped tunic of fine lace in a warm shade of cream-colour, approaching the tone of ivory, and looped with wide ribbons of dark-green velvet. With this are sent home three jackets—one of lace like the skirt, made upon a lining of apple-green silk and with transparent elbow sleeves. Braces of dark-green velvet end in small bows upon the shoulders; and a high velvet collar, being detached, can be worn or not, according to the state of the atmosphere. These high velvet collars are almost intolerably hot. The second jacket is one that can be worn in the promenade. It is made of dark-green velvet, with basques cut up in sections. A blouse front of lace like that in the skirt can be added or not, as may be fit for the occasion. The third jacket is of the Zouave shape, also in dark-green velvet, lined with apple-green silk. It is practically sleeveless, and can be slipped on in a moment. All its outlines are edged with a fringe made of wooden pampilles covered with shaded-green satin and strung together with twisted silk cord and shaded-green beads. One dress is thus designed to do duty as a dinner-gown or a visiting costume, a pretty hat to match being lined with dark-green velvet and trimmed with lace and loops of apple-green silk. The present modes lend themselves to many such devices that will appeal, not only to the economically-minded, but to those who dislike to be hampered by a superfluous quantity of luggage, with its ever-recurring necessities of unpacking and re-packing—operations not only troublesome in themselves, but tending to the destruction of smart frocks.

HEAL & SON.

BEDSTEADS.

3ft. IRON FRENCH from 10s. 6d. } 200 fixed for Inspection.
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BEDDING.

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INTERNAL WEAKNESS.

Miss M. HUDSON, Twyford, Derby, writes:
"March 20th, 1885.
"Seven months ago I purchased one of your Electropathic Belts. I need not describe the symptoms here, but refer you to my letter of June 17, 1884, No. 3,144. I have worn the Belt every day since that date; it has been an untold comfort to me. I would not be without one, and cannot say enough in favour of your Belts; all I regret is that they are not better known. I shall be glad to write to any lady who may wish to hear more particulars respecting my case, and shall certainly recommend your appliances to my friends."

RHEUMATIC GOUT.

Major PAKENHAM, Longstone House, Armagh, writes:
"February 23rd, 1885.
"I am very happy to inform you that the Electropathic Belt which you supplied me with has completely cured me of the Rheumatic Gout from which I had suffered such intense agony for nearly two years, and I now feel as strong and active as I have ever felt in my life. Several of my friends have, on my recommendation, tried these Belts, and in every case the result has been most satisfactory."

LUMBAGO AND NERVOUS EXHAUSTION.

R. H. SMEDLEY, Esq., Perthy-Terfyn, Holywell, North Wales, writes:
"May 2nd, 1885.
"I have worn a No. 3 power Electropathic Belt and Spine Band daily for exactly five months. The pains in my back ceased soon after I began to wear the Appliances, and I have had no return, but before I had Lumbago off and on for over nine years. I am much stronger, and my general health is very good. I am very thankful I consulted you, and shall recommend your Appliances to any one I know suffering as I used to do."

LIVER AND KIDNEY DISORDER.

CHARLES SEWELL, Esq., Cirencester, writes:
"March 24, 1885.
"You may like to hear that I have worn one of your Electropathic Belts with the most satisfactory results, for whereas I used to be constantly laid up with Liver attacks and Kidney disorders, I have been entirely free from such ever since I began to wear the Belt."

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JOHN BULL.

LONDON, July 18.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

The news from Afghanistan that has been received this week is undoubtedly disquieting, although its significance has probably been exaggerated. The Russian troops on the Afghan frontier are receiving strong reinforcements, and the Zulfikar Pass is occupied by a Russian force some three thousand strong. The Afghans, in apparent dread of a further advance upon Herat, have asked for English assistance in the work of completing the fortifications and organising the defence of the city; and in compliance with their invitation, and necessarily in obedience to the instructions of the British Government, Captain PEACOCK and Captain YATE have entered Herat, and the British Commission, under the command of Colonel RIDGEWAY, is proceeding to the neighbourhood to be ready for any eventualities. The meaning of these proceedings is clear, and will, of course, not be lost upon the Russian Government. It is made manifest that if a Russian advance upon Herat should take place this autumn, the Afghans will not be left alone in their defence of the city; that Herat, that is, can only be occupied by Russia at the cost of a war with Great Britain. The thorough perception by the Russian Government of the fact that the limits of its advance towards the Indian frontier have been reached, and that a persistence in aggression will bring it into conflict with the British arms, is the best security for the maintenance of peace. In the meantime, little progress appears to be made with the settlement of the frontier. The Russian Government hesitates to carry out its undertaking to give up the Zulfikar Pass to Afghanistan. Mr. GLADSTONE has taken occasion to state that Great Britain is bound by its pledges to the AMEER to insist upon the carrying out by the Russian Government of its agreement to surrender the pass. The probability is that Russia, after exhausting the resources and delays of its diplomacy in the hope of winning fresh concessions, will give way before the firm maintenance of the rights of Afghanistan by Great Britain. If the British Government were to show signs of weakness or hesitation, if any doubt were apparent of the resolution of Great Britain to regard a Russian attack upon Herat as a *casus belli*, the Russian agreement as to the Zulfikar Pass would certainly never be ratified, and the Russian troops would in the course of another month or so be marching on Herat. The simple explanation of the present policy of the Russian Government is that Russian diplomacy is resolved to extort all the advantages that are possible without actual war with Great Britain. Before the certainty of war Russia will pause and retreat, for this, if for no other reason, that the lapse of two or three years will, by the completion of the railway system and the organisation of its more recent conquests in Central Asia, render it possible for Russia to wage war without the existing certainty of discomfiture and defeat.

The new Ministry appears to be bent, by its cynical disregard of principle in domestic policy, upon alienating the confidence and support of the Conservative classes. Its abandonment of the Crimes Act has been universally condemned by Conservatives throughout the country. And now it has absolutely purloined and appropriated Mr. JESSE COLLINGS's Bill for conferring votes upon paupers, and has developed and extended the principle which Mr. JESSE COLLINGS and Mr. CHAMBERLAIN have advocated. It is really not worth while for Conservatives to struggle to place a Conservative Ministry in office if these are the only apparent results. Conservative men and Radical measures may be an excellent policy for place-hunters, but it is a policy that honest politicians will absolutely refuse to countenance. In bringing forward the Medical Relief Disfranchisement Bill, Mr. ARTHUR BALFOUR does not pretend to justify the principle. He indicates frankly enough that the Cabinet in adopting Mr. JESSE COLLINGS's measure are influenced by the fear of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's denunciations of the iniquity of refusing the franchise to the recipients of parochial relief. Political cowardice of this kind is enough to condemn any Ministry in the eyes of the country. As a matter of fact, Mr. CHAMBERLAIN and his Radical allies might rave indefinitely on this "gross iniquity" that they have invented, without influencing a vote. In the country districts the general feeling amongst labourers who have not accepted help from the parish is that it is only fair and just that a distinction should be made between them and the improvident and thriftless. The healthy and popular sentiment is that paupers ought not to be invested with political power, and this sentiment the Government are about to entirely destroy. The arguments of Mr. PELL are irresistible, and no attempt was made to resist them. You cannot draw fine distinctions between paupers. If you give the franchise to the man who takes a bottle of medicine from the Union you have no right to refuse a vote to the man who, under stress of starvation, takes a loaf of bread. The logical consequence of the Bill and its certain result will be that the franchise will be conferred on paupers indiscriminately. It is to be remarked that the Government Bill goes much beyond Mr. JESSE COLLINGS's proposals. Mr. COLLINGS's measure was a temporary one, its duration being limited to one year, and its object was to secure for the Radical party the votes of the Radical labourers who might have lost their right to vote through ignorance of the consequence of accepting medical relief from the parish. Mr. BALFOUR's Bill lays down the principle permanently that the acceptance of medical relief shall not disqualify voters, not only at Parliamentary, but at municipal and other elections. Paupers are not, however, to be allowed to vote at the election of Poor Law Guardians, and surely this, on the principles that are dear to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN and that Mr. BALFOUR accepts, is a "monstrous injustice." For, on the Boards of Guardians it is, on Radical theories of representation, above all things desirable that paupers should be represented, as Mr. JESSE COLLINGS clearly enough intimated in the course of Thursday's debate. Mr. BALFOUR effectually disposed of the statement that one-fifth of the new voters would be disqualified if this measure were not passed. It will affect, it appears, one-fiftieth of the two millions who are to be admitted to the franchise. It is to be hoped that the Ministry will not press this unhappy measure in defiance of Conservatives principles and in opposition to their own convictions. It will be of very little advantage to placate Mr. CHAMBERLAIN and Mr. JESSE COLLINGS, if the Conservative classes throughout the country are disheartened and disgusted by similar exhibitions of political cowardice and immorality on the part of the Conservative Ministry.

The Budget of Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH has been practically accepted by the House of Commons, although by general admission there is nothing to be said in its favour, except that, under the existing political conditions, any really statesmanlike attempt to deal with the financial position of the country is impossible. It is satisfactory to find that both Mr. GLADSTONE and Mr. CHILDERS have hastened to condemn the exceedingly silly statement of Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH, that the limits of increased taxation on the most important taxed articles of consumption, except perhaps tea, have been reached. The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER has hastened to explain away his statement, and probably he did not appreciate its significance. Mr. TREVELYAN, a representative Radical, did, however; and hastened to say that in future all extraordinary expenditure would necessarily be imposed upon property. Mr. CHILDERS indicated the full meaning of Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH's assertion when he said that it "sounded the knell of indirect taxation." It is something, however, that the protests of Mr. GLADSTONE and Mr. CHILDERS have been called forth. It only remains to hope with Mr. GLADSTONE that Sir MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH has "reconsidered an opinion perhaps due to "the haste and pressure consequent on accession "to office."

The Educational Budget that was introduced on Tuesday by Mr. EDWARD STANHOPE in a clever and interesting speech has the usual characteristic of an augmented expenditure. The cost of elementary education has increased and is increasing, and the much-burdened taxpayers and ratepayers are beginning to consider it ought to be diminished. This year a sum of £3,302,772 is asked for, being an increase for England and Wales of no less than £121,000 over the amount required last year. For the last year the total annual expenditure on elementary education was £6,500,000 in England and Wales, of which voluntary contributions provided £734,000, the school rates £915,000, and school pence £1,734,000. The capital expenditure in buildings and so forth since 1870 has been not far short of £23,000,000, of which amount voluntary contributions have provided nearly £6,500,000, while the School

Boards have raised £16,000,000 of that amount, and have to that extent burdened the ratepayers with debt. The reckless extravagance which has been displayed in building and providing schools is sufficiently shown by the fact that there are at present some 300,000 more places than children to fill them. Mr. STANHOPE recognises the justice of the complaints of overpressure, and shows in the encouragement that he is prepared to give to the teaching of cookery, for instance, that he properly estimates the importance of rendering elementary education useful and practical, which is just what men of the school of Mr. MUNDELLA fail to appreciate. Mr. MUNDELLA was, of course, as enthusiastic as ever in his theories on education. He is delighted to parade statistics that point to a diminution of crime, which he attributes to the spread of education. It is not many years since Lord SALISBURY adduced statistics which served to indicate that the improvement in the education of the people was accompanied by an increase of the criminal population. Mr. TALBOT advocated a commission to inquire into the educational system of the country, on the ground of its unnecessary extravagance and doubtful efficiency. The mere fact that education in a Board school costs £2 1s. 8½d. per scholar, and in a voluntary school £1 15s. 2d., is in itself a proof of the necessity of reform in the Board school system. Mr. MOLLOY attacked the Board-school system, and gave expression to the abhorrence in which it is held by the friends of religious education. The time is possibly not far distant when the Board-school system may be overthrown and elementary education organised in a sounder, more economical, and more efficient fashion than at present.

OUR DIFFICULTIES ABROAD.

It was not to be supposed that by the accession to office of a Conservative Government all our difficulties abroad would instantly vanish. The legacy of failure which Lord SALISBURY and his colleagues have inherited from their predecessors is too serious to be thus easily got rid of. In regard to no matter is this fact more obvious than it is with respect to the Afghan boundary question, which during the last few days has again prominently forced itself upon public attention. In two distinct respects Lord SALISBURY now finds himself hampered by the weakness and folly which characterised the dealings of our Radical Government with Russia in respect to the Afghan question. The brag and bluster which, as the writer of a trenchant and effective article in the *Quarterly Review* reminds us, were put into requisition by Mr. GLADSTONE, ended in a complete collapse. The same men who blamed Lord BEACONSFIELD for effectually preserving peace by an expenditure of six millions have recently asked for no less than eleven millions with which to coerce Russia—without avail, as it now appears. On the 27th of April Mr. GLADSTONE's words were full of war; on the 4th of May he gave up everything. At first he thought we ought to fight about Penjdeh; then that the place was quite beyond our jurisdiction. Next he found out that the Ameer of AFGHANISTAN did not want it; then that we could not hold our own in case of war; and finally that Russia had better have her own way. What wonder is it if Russia now draws her own conclusions from the squeezability of our last Government? No doubt Russian statesmen are well aware—they surely have every reason to be—that in Lord SALISBURY they are dealing with a Foreign Minister of a very different stamp from the late one. But then they have also good cause for believing that they may safely rely on the co-operation of their Radical friends in England. That is an anticipation in which we trust they may find themselves, at least to a very great extent, disappointed. We cannot doubt that all the more honest and patriotic members of the Liberal party will give their sincere support to Lord SALISBURY in resisting Russian aggression, although there exists a small but noisy and unscrupulous Russophile faction amongst us, represented by a certain journal which, not content with having prostituted itself to Russia, is acquiring notoriety by even more objectionable means. Although, however, we are confident that the whole country will support Lord SALISBURY in a firm Afghan policy, it is obvious that the vacillating conduct of the late Ministry, who, after wasting some millions in warlike preparations, left Russia master of the field, has contributed more than anything else to delude Russia into the belief that the pastime of bearding England is one in which she can indulge with entire impunity. Nor is this the only point in regard to which Lord SALISBURY's diplomacy is heavily handicapped. As the present PRIME MINISTER himself observed when in Opposition, the late Government were to blame for ever having allowed the issue to be raised on such a petty question as that of Penjdeh—"a distant inaccessible oasis, "in which we could not have fought if we had "wished." Much the same may be said of Zulfikar or of any other point of the Afghan frontier. We are compelled to insist on Zulfikar being handed to the AMEER, not because of its intrinsic value or importance, but because the late Government distinctly pledged itself to the AMEER on the subject, and it is absolutely essential that all British pledges should be fulfilled.

Much alarm during the last few days has been caused by the news of the Russian advance on Zulfikar. What is exactly the foremost point of the Russian advance it is difficult at present to determine. That the Russians are massing troops in the immediate neighbourhood of Zulfikar seems certain enough; and that they are doing this with the object of making an immediate move forward on Herat appears scarcely less likely. That Herat is the point at which Russian ambition has all along been aiming is, of course, unquestionable, and there seems no improbability in the opinion that before many weeks are over the Russians will be actually in Herat, unless the garrison, aided by its fortifications, are able to resist their attack. Nobody in his senses has ever believed that Russia was sincere in her professions to respect the Afghan frontier—even the frontier laid down by her own agent, M. LESSAR, which is the line practically agreed to by Lord GRANVILLE, and which represents the last concession which England is prepared to make. It is said that the position of the negotiations between the British and the Russian Governments is not yet "acute," but that it is "decidedly serious." Acute it may not be, in the sense that each side has said its last word, and that the claims of the two sides are irreconcileable. But it may be taken for granted that, in any event, what Lord SALISBURY has made up his mind to, he cannot and will not draw back from. Nothing could be more explicit than the PRIME MINISTER's declaration last week; and the Russian Government, as we have said, knows very well that Lord SALISBURY is not the Minister to go back from a resolution thus deliberately formed. If, unhappily, there should occur a breach of amicable relations between the two countries, it can only be through the deliberate intention of Russia to insist on terms to which it is notorious beforehand the present British Government will absolutely refuse its assent.

It is at least satisfactory to be able to believe that in regard to Egypt the prospect is somewhat brighter than it has been for a long time past. If it is true that Germany and Austria have given such assurances as will enable the British Government to proceed at once with the raising of the new Egyptian Loan, it is evident that at least some progress is about to be made in effectually dealing with what is, perhaps, the most thorny of Egyptian difficulties—that of finance. Certainly it is the one that presses most heavily for immediate solution. And the news is also significant in another respect, as indicating the first-fruits of that *rapprochement* between England and the German Powers which Lord SALISBURY's advent to power has effected. Of almost equal interest is the announcement that Sir HENRY DRUMMOND WOLFF's mission has for its principal object an exchange of views with the Porte in respect to Egypt. It is, of course, an entire mistake to suppose that Sir HENRY WOLFF's object will be to negotiate for a Turkish occupation of Egypt. It may be assumed that the scope of his mission will be a much wider one. As we have frequently explained, and once more reiterated last week, the essential basis of Tory policy in Egypt is a fitting regard for the Suzerain rights of the SULTAN. The Radical Government primarily erred by entirely ignoring the treaty obligations of England in respect to the Turkish Empire; and no satisfactory solution of our Egyptian difficulties can be found except by a frank recognition of those obligations, which deeply interest not only ourselves, but all Europe. It may be objected that Turkey will obstinately decline to consent to a continuance of the British occupation of Egypt on any terms. That, however, is an anticipation which, it may with some confidence be affirmed, will be falsified by events.

THE HOUSING OF THE WORKING CLASSES.

In striking contrast to the heroic and fussy legislation commonly initiated by Radical politicians is the modest and unpretentious, yet withal, it may be hoped, beneficial measure which Lord SALISBURY introduced into the House of Lords on Thursday evening, and which deals with the momentous subject which Lord SALISBURY has made peculiarly his own, the Housing of the Working Classes. The PRIME MINISTER has certainly not permitted the grass to grow under his feet with respect to this matter; and he has embodied his views in a Bill which will certainly be appreciated by the country as an honest endeavour to grapple with one of the greatest evils of the day. No contrast could be more striking than that presented by this, the first piece of Tory legislation, to the sensational or "heroic" measures introduced by the Revolutionary agitators who have held office during the last five years. This is no widespreading scheme of destruction, intended to set class against class, or to bolster up the waning influence of an unprincipled faction. It represents what is in the main a statesmanlike proposal for dealing with a pressing popular want—a want that is every day making itself more felt, and which far more nearly concerns the real welfare and happiness of the community than any question connected with the franchise or with Board school education. Lord SALISBURY's exposition of the provisions of his Bill was singularly lucid and interesting. The chief features of the Bill have received the consent of the members of the Royal Commission, though it to a certain extent represents a compromise. Lord SALISBURY makes no pretence of possessing any formula which will cure all the evils of which the public have heard so much. It is not by sensational and extreme measures, but by slow and gradual steps judiciously taken, that a remedy is to be applied. The present Bill leaves some difficult questions for future treatment, but it deals in a fairly effective manner with the two distinct evils arising respectively from insanitary arrangements and from overcrowding. The former seem capable of much more rapid cure than the latter. The more prosperity increases, the more these sanitary evils tend to diminish; while, on the other hand, the more prosperity increases, the more danger arises of overcrowding.

On the first head, Lord SALISBURY has no hesitation in assuring us that if existing laws were fully executed sanitary evils would hardly remain. Hence the aim of the Bill is chiefly to secure a more thorough administration of the law. In the first place, the bye-laws, at present applicable to London alone, which deal with the inspection and supervision of tenement houses, are to be extended to the whole country. Next, the Artisans' Dwellings Act is to be altered, so that in future the local authority, which is often disinclined to do its duty, will be liable to be compelled to perform its functions by the intervention of the Local Government Board. A third provision of the Bill deals with the obligation of every man who builds and lets a house to take reasonable precautions that it shall be healthy, under pain of being held to have broken his contract. At present a man who lets a furnished house is compelled to enter into a contract that the house is in a wholesome state. Under this Bill the same rule applies to a man who lets a house unfurnished. Lord SALISBURY, with some reason, looks to this clause more than to any other to diminish the death-rate caused by insanitary dwellings, but the provision is one which will need due consideration before it is finally approved. After all, however, it is rather to the stirring of public opinion on these matters than by legislative enactments that we must look for any real reform of these sanitary evils.

With reference to the more difficult question of overcrowding, Lord SALISBURY observes that in London the problem is connected with the enormous distance at which the circumference lies from the centre. It is not a case in which, as elsewhere, the evil is to be met by building cottages on the outskirts. Hence the necessity of somehow providing houses near the scene of the workpeople's labours. It is proposed that the sites of several of the Metropolitan prisons—Millbank, Pentonville, and Coldbath-fields—shall be purchased by the Metropolitan Board of Works, and then let out under restrictions, and applied solely to the purpose of erecting dwellings for working-people and especially dwellings suited to the wants of the most necessitous classes. Lord SALISBURY thinks something may be done to provide cheaper dwellings than those hitherto built, and we entirely agree with him. By another provision he proposes, whilst doing nothing contrary to the wishes of landlords, to give liberty to use land for the erection of workmen's dwellings in cases where by settlement the owner is forbidden so to use it. A similar liberty already exists in the country to let land for farm-houses or cottages, without considering whether it is the most profitable purpose for which the land could be used. Lastly, there are cases where the most frightful overcrowding results owing to the sudden springing up of industries in places where there are local difficulties which prevent proprietors from selling the land, and where no one is willing to build. Lord SHAFTESBURY's Act of 1851 for increasing the lodging-house accommodation in places where there is a congestion of the population affords a precedent which is applicable here. The parish or local authority will be enabled to build cottages or lodging-houses if in the judgment of the Local Government Board the accommodation is urgently required, and if, further, the parish can supply it without any risk to the ratepayers. Here again the greatest caution will be necessary to avoid objections which are sufficiently obvious.

This brief outline of Lord SALISBURY's Bill may suffice to indicate its chief provisions. There is, as his Lordships remarks, nothing in it of a very large or sweeping character, while at the same time it is calculated to meet, at least to a considerable extent, a gigantic national evil, and to alleviate the sorrows and troubles of that vast proportion of the community whose physical and moral welfare is dependent upon the physical conditions that attend their birth and nurture, among which none are more powerful than the state of the houses in which they dwell.

WHIGS AND RADICALS.

The traditional organ of "plain Whig "principles" has taken up the parable recently delivered by one of the most distinguished Whig ex-Ministers. The article on the state of the Liberal party in the *Edinburgh Review*, if somewhat less trenchant and less impressive, is as decided and emphatic in its tone as the recent speech of the Duke of ARGYLL on the present position of affairs. The Duke of ARGYLL, till four years ago, had been a member of every Liberal Cabinet since 1852. He was the most powerful speaker on the Liberal front bench in the Peers. Everyone in the House of Lords was familiar with his vehement, sometimes fiery, denunciations of Conservative policy, and especially of the Turkish and Indian policy of the last Conservative Administration. He had shared in the Irish Land Bill of 1870, and in the abortive Disturbance Bill of 1880. But at the Bill of 1881 he drew the line and followed the example of Lord LANSDOWNE, in the previous year, by severing his connection with Mr. GLADSTONE's Government. He speaks entirely as a neutral between the rival leaders. He blamed the Conservatives for taking office. But he attributed the weakness of the policy of Mr. GLADSTONE's Cabinet for a long while back to obvious differences among themselves. He pointed out how all the rumours of differences, which in themselves might not have deserved much credit, seemed to have been confirmed by later events. He dwelt on the utterances of particular members of the Cabinet which it was certain that many others must have gravely disapproved. He insisted that this state of things was different from any that he remembered; that the ABERDEEN Cabinet, though composed of those who had at one time widely differed, was never divided on strictly party lines; that Lord JOHN RUSSELL's action in turning against his colleagues was the act of his political life which had been most justly and strongly censured. And he denounced most strongly the view of Lord ROSEBERY—and, he might have added, of Mr. MORLEY—of keeping up an appearance of union where differences were really such as to make it unreal. For, he pointed out, on freedom of contract, on regard for individual liberty, on respect for property, on restriction of undue State interference, the old policy of Liberals and that of the new Radical wing were diametrically opposed.

Lord ROSEBERY, in his reply, unable to shake the general result of the Duke of ARGYLL's argument, endeavoured to show that the disunion the Duke objected to was as rife in his earlier days as in the present time. As to this he was able to make a case of some weight. The fact is that only at intervals has the unity of the Liberal party been a reality. The Whig and Radical sections have always been fundamentally divided in principle, though for the time acting together. In the days of Lord PALMERSTON's Administrations, the party nominally included both himself and Mr. BRIGHT. The differences between Lord PALMERSTON and those who adhered to him personally and the school of Mr. BRIGHT and Mr. COBDEN were at least as great as those between many Liberals and many Conservatives. It is true that in 1868,

and still later, in 1880, the Liberal party seemed for a time welded into one. At the former date the idea that something must be done as to Ireland, and especially as to the Irish Church, was the rallying point of the Liberal party at the elections. Their union, somewhat relaxed by 1874, was cemented during years of opposition. In 1880 the one note struck throughout the country was that of opposition to Lord Beaconsfield's foreign policy. In this cry those who looked to a Ministry headed by Lord Hartington joined with the followers of the Birmingham Caucus. Most of the domestic measures of the late Government were altogether in the background. Their Irish legislation was as little anticipated at that time as their expedition to Egypt. The preponderance which the advanced section would assume in the councils of the Government and the Ministerial party was probably unforeseen by those who placed them in power. Their subsequent course has brought out the essential divergence among Liberals of different schools, which had been temporarily obscured, but not removed.

The writer in the *Edinburgh Review* considers that the electors will have to make their choice between the two contrasted forms of political opinion which claim the name of Liberalism. He is, of course, speaking of those whose faith is pledged to the name of Liberalism in one shape or other. The antagonism which he dwells upon is between the advocates of the fullest development of individual liberty under natural conditions as we find them, and the democratic tyranny—"democracie autoritaire," as it would be called in France or Geneva—which seeks to force individual action into its own moulds, and to sweep away, by the action of the State, all existing conditions which stand in the way of its objects. The difference is, in a great measure, that between Mr. Herbert Spencer and the promoters of what he has called "The Coming Slavery." The Liberals of the last generation, including the older Radicals as well as Whigs, looked to the removal of artificial restraints as the basis of progress. *Laissez-faire* was their creed. Legal inequalities, monopolies, or privileges maintained by the State were what they desired to abrogate. Unshackled individual effort was that to which they trusted for the welfare of society. The more modern type of Radical, like some of the theorists of the French Revolution, think that the rights of the individual must bend to the carrying out of a social ideal—that the weak are weighed down by disadvantages which the State should step in to remove. They wish to make war not on artificial inequalities which law has created, but on inequalities which arise in the natural order of things unless an arbitrart interposition of the State is directed agains, them. Free contract, free disposal of property the accumulation of wealth unchecked by a demand for "ransom," are, therefore, objects of aversion to them. They only object to the extension of the province of government when the State machine is in the hands of their antagonists. If the machine can be directed by those who will use it in a democratic sense, they think that it cannot interfere too much. If they favour local self-government, it is less because they wish to limit the action of the central power, as because local bodies possessing compulsory authority can carry their interference further in each district than would be possible for the Legislature of the whole country.

It is thus that the partisans of a despotic democracy are inclined to establish a kind of home rule for each part of the United Kingdom. Ireland, as to a large part of its administration, they would give over to the dominion of a majority hostile to the rights of large classes of their countrymen, and utterly distrusted by most educated men. They wish to stimulate similar demands elsewhere. They wish to give to the State in principle a control over all property. They favour schemes of taxation which differ in degree, but not in principle, from the confiscation of all wealth beyond a certain amount. They desire, at the same time, to sweep away the provision made by an Established Church for religious ministrations free to all who are willing to avail themselves of them, and to leave the maintenance of religion to that Voluntaryism which they think insufficient in every other field.

It is for the electors, as the *Edinburgh Review* urges, to decide, if they wish to support the Liberal party, to which of these forms of Liberalism they desire to give their adhesion. It may be observed that in some respects Conservative principles lie between the two. To the extreme view of *laissez-faire*, urged by the older political economists, Conservatives are in no way pledged. That the State, as Mr. Spencer and his disciples contend, is a mere engine of police has never been a part of their creed. They are ready to admit that under prudent and moderate guidance the action of the State may do something for both material and moral improvement. It may be a question whether the possibility of such beneficial action is not diminished as the State ceases to be controlled by any class who can be considered more intellectual or thoughtful than the great body of those who are the subject of legislation. If the State is controlley by those who, while not given to much reflection on the ultimate results of legislation, feel keenly the pressure of immediate evils, they will welcome with impatience any drastic remedy which may in the end cause only greater evils. But, undoubtedly, Conservatives would join with all the older Liberals in denouncing every attempt to secure all men equal advantages by violent interference with individual liberty and the conditions which enable one man to rise above others and bequeath a better position to his children. They would disapprove the attempts to regenerate society by forcing individuals into an artificial mould at the will of the Legislature and attempting to alter human nature by State agency. It is something of this kind, whether consciously or not, which is at the bottom of the projects of Liberals of the newer school. Adherence to Mr. Gladstone's leadership is the only point of union between the two sections, otherwise so wide apart. Mr. Gladstone's declarations of intended retirement have so often been followed by fresh activity, that they may seem to be empty words. But it is hardly likely that he will still be the leader of a party for many Sessions of the new Parliament. Will any other statesman hold together a Ministry such as that over which he has presided? Who will be the followers of Lord Hartington, Mr. Forster, or Mr. Goschen, who will rather follow Mr. Chamberlain and Sir C. Dilke? In helping to return a Liberal majority, the electors will have to reflect for what leaders in the future they are working. In supporting definitely the Moderate or the Radical wing they are at least declaring for something definite. In supporting what has been called Liberalism with a "united face," they will support only a legend and a name.

THE END AND THE MEANS.

Much as we might have desired to preserve silence on a certain very disagreeable topic now engaging public attention, the time has come when we should be neglecting a plain duty if we were to forbear any longer to record our most emphatic protest against the public dissemination in the streets of London and elsewhere of a species of literature which hitherto has been stringently suppressed by law. As to the motives of those who have originated this traffic much has been urged both by themselves and others. So far as their methods of action afford any indication of their motives we are bound to observe that perhaps the less said upon that point the better. Be their end, however, what it may, it cannot affect our estimate of the means they have employed to carry it out. To us it is simply astounding that there can be any two opinions on the subject. There is, we fear, nothing very surprising in the mere fact of the publication of this mass of literary nastiness. Audacious it is, without doubt—and audacious beyond all precedent; but we have lately had too much experience of the sort of depths to which a certain class of journalism will stoop in order to gain notoriety for us to feel more than a passing sense of wonder at this more recent performance. The really amazing thing is the amount and the kind of support which this unprincipled venture has received. There could be no more painful illustration of the extent to which the best and most well-meaning of men are liable to be duped than is supplied by the fact that a certain proportion of well-known Christian philanthropists, both clergymen and laymen, have expressed their approval of and sympathy with this latest and most shameless effort of sensational journalism. It is but too evident that the zeal of these excellent people has sadly outrun their discretion, and that in their case, as in that of too many others, earnestness of conviction does not necessarily carry with it soundness and sobriety of judgment.

It is sufficiently lamentable that so many good men and women should have lent themselves to the really immoral delusion that the end pursued has justified the means employed. But it is, if possible, even more to be regretted that they should have failed to perceive that in the present instance the means are precisely adapted to defeat the very object they have most at heart. They are anxious to uphold and to further the cause of purity, especially among the young. Is it possible to imagine that that end can have been promoted by sowing broadcast amongst all classes of society and among persons of all ages a series of publications of almost unparalleled obscenity? We are compelled to wonder whether these zealous advocates of social reform have actually realised the horrible scenes enacted in the London streets last week—the struggling mob of human beings, drawn from the very lowest dregs of the populace, fighting like wild beasts to obtain the loathsome stuff for retail among an eager crowd of buyers, most of whom, it is quite certain, were actuated by motives of mere prurient curiosity. It was precisely that class of buyers whom the original caterers of this meal of garbage had in view. Not only the matter of this obscene publication, but (even more) its manner, is sufficient proof of this allegation. The sensational advertisements issued beforehand, the preliminary warnings to the "squeamish" *not* to buy the forthcoming numbers of the journal in question, the highly elaborated introductory matter, the suggestive headings of the paragraphs, the "spicy" and detailed treatment of the subject, the unequalled brutality and coarseness of the phraseology employed (unnecessary from any point of view), the offensive plain-spokenness even of the contents-bills—all these showed as clearly as anything could do, the kind of readers whom it was hoped to attract. The purveyors knew their market well enough, and took good care that it should not be disappointed. And what we ask the public at large, but especially those whom we cannot but think the victims of a zeal untempered by reason, to ponder most seriously is, how far the sacred cause they have at heart is served by all this wretched pandering to the lowest and most depraved tastes or by the absolutely indiscriminate circulation amongst the young of both sexes of filth of the most unmitigated kind. Surely it is not with such weapons as these that they are prepared to fight the battle of purity.

It has been urged in reply to all such considerations that the evil we have to contend with is one of unexampled magnitude, and that the most strenuous efforts are needed to meet it. So far from disputing either proposition, we cordially re-echo both. But we have yet to learn that the strength of the enemy to be combated is a reason for being indifferent as to the kind of weapons with which we attack him—still less for playing into his hands under the transparent pretence of attacking him. Does any man in his sober senses suppose that to spread abroad obscene literature does not have the inevitable result of arousing foul and wicked thoughts in those who peruse it? Can it, then, on any hypothesis of the facts, be right to place it indiscriminately in the hands of everybody, without distinction of sex or age? Such a question answers itself. We are told that it is necessary to be plain-spoken. Granted; but plain speaking is a different thing from either foul speaking or indiscriminate speaking. It is said that no other course was open if any good was to be done. That would be no plea, even if the assertion were true, for working a sure and certain mischief of incalculable dimensions. But it is not true. The Report of the House of Lords' Committee could have furnished amply sufficient evidence of every one of the evils now pointed out; and, on the other hand, nothing would have been easier than to have circulated gratis in particular localities, and amongst particular classes of people, such information as was needed to act as a preventive of certain loathsome crimes. Even if recourse had been necessary to the public Press, the matter in hand might have been stated soberly and without exaggeration, and, above all, couched in decent and becoming language. As it is, it cannot be doubted that a widespread and probably irreparable injury has been done by the original disseminators of the moral poison to which we allude; and, although they may quote in their own favour the opinions of some eminent and experienced individuals, it is certain that that view is utterly repudiated by an overwhelming majority of men of equal eminence, equal experience, and at least equal zeal in promoting the cause of purity among the people.

WESTMINSTER HALL.

It is a matter less for surprise than for regret that the House of Commons has sanctioned the scheme recommended by its Select Committee for completing the west side of Westminster Hall. We have the assurance of Mr. Shaw-Lefevre that the Committee was the best that could possibly have been selected. No doubt he is further of opinion that it could have had no better chairman. At any rate, we are not concerned to deny that the decision of the House of Commons probably accords with the preponderance of public opinion. It is a decision in every respect well worthy of a generation which, in spite of all its chatter about Art and Culture, continues to tolerate the wholesale destruction of its historical monuments under the name of Restoration. The artistic taste of an age which can permit the perpetration of such portentous monstrosities as those to be witnessed, for instance, at St. Alban's Abbey, finds, no doubt, a fit exponent in a Commissioner of Public Works of the stamp of Mr. Shaw-Lefevre. Even Mr. Ayrton's plebeian contempt for artistic considerations was preferable to Mr. Shaw-Lefevre's absurdly pretentious claim to be considered an artistic authority. Mr. Ayrton was absolutely ignorant of art, but he at least never professed to be anything else. Our later Radical ædile prefers to pose as an æsthetic expert, while possessing no qualifications whatever to be considered as such. Mr. Ayrton, by his gratuitously rough and unmannerly treatment of the professional men with whom he was brought into official relations, succeeded in arousing public indignation. But the ridiculous airs of superiority affected by Mr. Lefevre are hardly less offensive. Several competent witnesses, including one eminent architect, were, as Mr. Mitchell Henry told the House of Commons, hindered from offering their evidence before the Select Committee by the prospect of being subjected to the insulting comments of the Chairman. But perhaps the most flagrant instance of Mr. Lefevre's ludicrous self-sufficiency is afforded by the rude impertinence with which he treated the trenchant and convincing criticisms of our able contemporary the *Builder*, in revenge (as it is understood) for that journal's unkind exposure of the absurdities involved in his rearrangement of Hyde-park-corner.

In his speech on Wednesday afternoon, Mr. Shaw-Lefevre advocated the adoption of Mr. Pearson's design for the completion of Westminster Hall "on grounds architectural, "archæological, and utilitarian." It is important to note the broad distinction that exists in Mr. Lefevre's mind between what is "architectural" and what is "utilitarian," because it is a distinction which explains the position taken up by the advocates of Mr. Pearson's scheme. But this threefold classification of the argument does not appear to be wholly exhaustive. For instance, Mr. Lefevre points out that the old Norman wall can only be preserved by erecting "a building" in front of it, and he infers from this the necessity of constructing "a building" which is to cost £13,500. We confess to being not quite sure whether this redoubtable piece of logic is based on architectural, or on archæological, or on utilitarian considerations. The "archæological" argument seems to rest upon the utterly baseless assumption that "the Hall was "intended by the original builders to be seen." We call this a baseless assumption, because the whole of the extant evidence points in the other direction. When the Hall was first erected, it was a "nucleus" of a group of buildings, as Mr. Pearson himself says. Indeed, the Committee themselves acknowledge that "buildings of different heights soon "sprang up beside it." The Hall was, there is every reason to believe, as much enclosed on the west side as on the east. Therefore, when Mr. Lefevre affirms that by the carrying out of Mr. Pearson's designs we shall "recover "the general aspect of the Hall as it was in "early times," it is obvious to remark that neither in early nor in later times did the Hall present any such aspect. Next, we are assured that Mr. Pearson's two-storied building will be, in the main, a reproduction of what was put in the same place by Richard II. That is a point upon which very considerable difference of opinion exists, to say the least. Mr. Peddie has furnished some extremely weighty reasons for doubting whether Mr. Pearson's design has the slightest right to be called even a restoration. It is, for instance, an open question whether the original wall had any parapet. Then there is a good deal of evidence to show that the wall itself was not of a uniform height throughout. Moreover, according to Mr. Peddie, Mr. Pearson has omitted to restore several features which might have been restored—"he 'restores' things of which there is no "evidence, and does not restore things of which "there is clear evidence." To our minds the balance of testimony goes to show that Mr. Pearson's pretended "restoration" is not a restoration at all; and that, therefore, what is styled the "archæological" argument falls to the ground. It is a little too bad that

considerations of convenience and utility should be sacrificed to mere sentiment; but the case is still worse when it is found that even the sentiment itself has no justification in historic fact.

Even, however, if the matter were otherwise—even if it could be proved to demonstration that this new work is to be a restoration of old work—the course now to be taken is inspired by a spirit wholly alien to that which actuated the old builders. Granted that RICHARD II. erected a two-storied building, we may be quite sure that it was built solely because it was required. Now it is perfectly notorious that when it was proposed last year to "restore" the west side of the Hall, there was, as Mr. COURTNEY reminds us, no idea whatever of any want to be supplied. Mr. MITCHELL HENRY wittily described the proposal in its first shape as a scheme to erect a place for horses, "where "the animals would have an opportunity of "looking at the Norman wall." Even Mr. AYRTON understood that it was the duty of a First Commissioner of Public Works, when about to erect new buildings, to ascertain what are the public requirements. It was reserved for Mr. SHAW-LEFEVRE, however, to rise far superior to so commonplace a notion. Even now he seems quite uncertain as to the purpose for which the rooms are to be erected; nor does his successor, Mr. PLUNKET, appear to have formed the least idea on the subject. For want of any other use to which the new building can be put, it is proposed to turn it into a series of "Committee-rooms" and "Con-"ference-rooms." The latter will be little better than a row of cellars. They are to be nearly five feet below the already low level of Westminster Hall, from which they will be reached by a flight of nine or ten steps. Neither these nor the rooms above will have any fire-places; though their occupants will have the privilege of viewing "the Norman "wall" at close quarters. No wonder Mr. MITCHELL HENRY considers these chambers, which Mr. SHAW-LEFEVRE calls "very excel-"lent rooms," gloomy and disagreeable. The Committee-rooms upstairs are to include within them the greater portion of the flying-buttresses of the Hall; and they will suffer not only from insufficiency of light, but probably also from the near proximity of the new horse-stand, which is to run at right angles to the cloister. Over the horse-stand is to be erected a Grand Committee-room—an arrangement which opens up some interesting and as yet still unsolved questions of ventilation. Nor is this all. Westminster Hall itself will very possibly be darkened by the new buildings, while its area will be grievously disfigured by the break to be made in its western wall in order, as Mr. HENRY said, to construct one flight of steps leading down into a cellar, and another flight of steps leading up into a gallery. On the whole, the project may justly be summed up in Mr. COURTNEY'S words as "a scheme to hide "the buttresses, to build rooms that are not "wanted, and that cannot meet any want, to "reproduce something that never existed, and "in the result to interfere with both the outside "and the inside of Westminster Hall." With all possible respect for Mr. BERESFORD-HOPE as an almost unequalled authority on such a subject, we must beg leave to demur to the argument that the matter must be settled at once, and that therefore the Committee's scheme is to be approved. We are forcibly reminded of Lord MELBOURNE'S saying that the plea "Let us do something," generally means "Let us do something foolish." It seems to us that by no means sufficient consideration has ever been accorded to the proposal for the completion of Sir CHARLES BARRY'S design for the Houses of Parliament. It is urged that this would involve the removal of St. Margaret's Church; but Mr. CHARLES BARRY has shown how, by a very slight modification, such a result could be altogether avoided. The completion of this magnificent scheme, as modified by the great architect's son, would provide some much-needed accommodation, at a saving (be it remembered) of the very considerable rent now paid for Government offices elsewhere. Of course the west side of Westminster Hall would, in this case, be hidden altogether; but the extremely low level at which the Hall stands below the surrounding neighbourhood renders it simply impossible to devise any artistically satisfactory treatment of its western side. Nor ought it to be forgotten that Sir CHARLES BARRY'S design, as a whole, was originally accepted by the nation, and that to leave it in its present mutilated state is not only to do a grave injustice to his memory, but to leave unprovided an amount of urgently needed accommodation which cannot be obtained in any other way.

Reviews.

THE OPIUM-EATER.*

De Quincey's *Confessions of an English Opium-Eater* is so firmly established among English Classics that it is well suited to form an addition to the *Parchment Library* now in course of publication by Messrs. Kegan Paul and Co. Their reprint of it has been edited by Mr. Richard Garnett, who has, rather strangely as it appears to us, chosen to reproduce the *Opium-Eater* in the shape at which it first appeared, not in that which the author finally imparted to it. His excuse is that he considers the additions made to the original to be on the whole "detrimental to the finish and "unity which the original version possesses," and he regards them as "brilliant super-"fluities." It might have been thought that the author himself was the best judge of such a question, and that if he had chosen to introduce these "brilliant superfluities" his editor was not justified in rejecting them. No doubt the criticism which the editor passes on the author—that "of all our great writers De "Quincey is the most deficient in concentra-"tion"—has much truth and justice in it, and the "latitude of expansion" which the Opium-Eater allowed to himself when a comparatively short series of magazine papers developed into an entire volume of biography was very great. But, at the same time, the recension was the form in which De Quincey himself wished his volume to live, and the wishes of an author in this respect are not to be set aside so easily as those of the "pious founder" are by modern enlightenment. It is true that the recension is nearly three times as long as the original edition of the *Confessions*, but mere length alone is not a sufficient reason for reproducting an edition on which the author thought he had improved instead of an edition which contains his improvements. The Editor himself admits that the earlier and simpler version, "while superior in "coarseness and directness of narrative, is by no "means elaborated with the same delicate atten-"tion to *minutiæ* of style." As, however, of all English writers, it may be most truly said of De Quincey, "Le style c'est l'homme," it is surely best that the book on which his fame rests should be given to the reader with all the results of the fastidious refinement of correction in which he indulged. More especially is this so when we find the editor again acknowledging that "the entire "*Opium-Eater* is more remarkable for form than "substance, for artistic excellence than for the "intrinsic value of the material."

But while we question an editor's right to reproduce what we may call the first rough draft rather than the completed version of the *Confessions*, we must also call attention to the valuable additions which he has made to the present reissue of the first edition. These comprise a very interesting account of a French translation of the book itself by Alfred de Musset, and some notes of conversation with De Quincey by Thomas Woodhouse. The translation was published in 1828, when the distinguished translator was only eighteen, and is probably unknown to the majority of his countrymen. It was discovered by M. Charles Soto, "un enragé Mussolâtre," in a book-stall on a quay of the Seine, and has since been reprinted with a comment by a M. Houlhard. It is certainly very remarkable, especially as regards the attempts of the translator to improve on his original, and notably in reference to that episode which he so audaciously interpolated in the style of the ordinary French novel. This "engrafting of De Musset on De "Quincey" is a literary phenomenon of much interest, and while it proves how precocious was the genius of the great French writer, it shows also that he did not realise that he was dealing with a classic work which did not allow of the introduction of his *purpurei panni*, and it can hardly be matter of surprise that his attempt to introduce De Quincey into France should have proved abortive. The conversations with Richard Woodhouse are extracted from a note-book kept by that gentleman, a barrister of the Temple, who, though not himself an author, was intimate with the brilliant literary circle which gathered round the *London Magazine*. The bulk of his memoranda and correspondence perished in the fire at Messrs. Kegan Paul and Co.'s, but the volume containing the notes of the conversations with De Quincey from September to December, 1821, was fortunately preserved, and from it are taken the present extracts, which are of great literary interest.

* *Confessions of an English Opium-Eater.*—London: Kegan Paul and Co, 1885.

SOME REVIEWS AND MAGAZINES.

Blackwood is bright and jubilant. Relieved from the incubus of the late "Ministry of Vacillation and Blood," the old Tory comes out in the old style. First comes a severe criticism of the Royal Academy and the Grosvenor Gallery. If Sir Joshua could revisit London, he would be delighted with the widespread enthusiasm for the Fine Arts, and mortified to see how little there is to reward it in the multiplied productions that crowd or are crowded out of our expanded galleries. They cannot compare with the scientific museums for inventive power. The golden ages of thirty-five years ago are gone; modern art is stagnant, declining, fallen. The "wretched Academy" of the present year is wholly without historic parallel in deterioration. Mr. Waterhouse's "St. Eulalia" and Mr. Poyntz's nude "Esquiline Venus" are the two pictures that received unmixed commendation. Millais's baronetcy does not save his "Ruling "Passion" from being pronounced a failure, and Mr. Tadema's triumph, the "Reading from "Homer," though of superlative merit, partakes of the house-decorator's illusions. Not twenty works will live. Artists paint down to common people instead of up to connoisseurs, and art is vulgarised and prosaic—a commercial commodity below the standard of cultured minds and given over to the "vainest mediocrity." The mischief is that it pays, and this worst of all Academies will bring good grist to the mill. Mr. Gerard brings his "Waters of Hercules" to the expected conclusion. The plot has improved wonderfully since the opening chapters, and it is now a really fine novel. "Fortune's Wheel" spins faster, and promises to turn out a prize or two worth having. The Poet Laureate gets a highly appreciative review of his *Becket*. An old Highlander tells some home truths on the Crofter agitation, which will not be very agreeable to the Radical traders on other people's capital. A review of Captain Kennedy's adventures in Newfoundland and the West Indies is entitled "An Unknown Colony." "Footprints" is an account of some of those prehistoric sculptures all over the world, of which no one knows the origin or purpose. The English Hexameters of the Oxford Scotchman are not much to the purpose; but the closing paper on the fall of Mr. Gladstone's Government is about as vigorous a piece of chastisement as was ever inflicted by Christopher North. Some people—the *Spectator*, for instance, so infatuated a worshipper of the Grand Old Man that it is always wondering at the intense hatred that others show to the god of its idolatry—would stare to read this paper, which they never will. It discloses the rage and resentment with which a patriot minority see their country dishonoured, the blood of England shed, and her treasure wasted, by a vain, incompetent, vacillating Minister, with no other quality of a statesman but the perilous art of fooling the multitude. It is a terrible indictment, but too true, that is here exhibited against the "archpriest of decep-"tion and ruin, the living ambiguity, him who "touched nothing he did not bungle, the late (let "us rejoice in that word *late*) Prime Minister."

The *Nineteenth Century*, with no less than fourteen articles, has none of particular excellence. Mr. Dicey makes a gallant stand for the Khedive of Egypt, and suggests the self-evident solution of the problem created by the Liberal Government. If England shrinks from doing the work which her action has made imperative, the Sultan is the obvious alternative. The old Tory policy of a Turkish alliance would restore order in Egypt, secure India, and checkmate Russia. Mr. Swinburne is magniloquent on Victor Hugo; Mr. St. George Mivart insists on Scientific Freedom for Modern Catholics, meaning Romanists; religious freedom, we presume, is not so necessary. Dr. Jessop gives another of his graphic sketches of rural life in "A Swain of Arcady." Mr. Lucy contends that Parliamentary manners are not worse now than of old time: we fear they are not likely to mend under the new *régime*. Mr. Henry Fowler wants to promote public business in the House of Commons by delegating the Estimates to three Standing Committees. Archdeacon Farrar puts his last word to his discussion with Lord Bramwell on drink. Capt. Gascoigne, who accompanied Sir Charles Wilson to within a mile of Khartoum, writes a modest narrative of the hapless four days which culminated the disaster and shame of the Egyptian muddle. Professor Lankester recounts the recent progress in biology in the usual triumphant tone, starting with the prodigious assumption that the "pedi-"gree" of plants and animals is written in the "embryo," much as the Mussulmans are said to believe every man's history to be inscribed on the inside of his skull! By the way, are embryos "homogeneous?" We thought they were compounded of two substances, and as each is the product of two earlier factors, there is a mighty big "pedigree" before we arrive at the protoplasm. Woods Pasha, advocating the alliance with Turkey, gives a statement of its armed strength which would surprise the Gladstonites if they cared for facts. Mr. Walker indignantly replies to the article in the last number on "Mine Inspec-"tion": the colliers themselves, he says, are more to blame than the inspectors or employers. This is the case with the working classes generally, and for that reason we suppose they are to be the masters of the Legislature and the Empire. Mdme. Gerard has collected a number of Transylvanian superstitions not very much unlike the superstitions of other countries. Mr. Slagg is quite right in condemning the Liberal policy of making Afghanistan a "buffer State." Lord Beaconsfield meant something very different in annexing Candahar, Mr. Gladstone having undone that—with a good deal more of the British Empire—there is no help but to fortify the Indus, which is what Mr. Slagg desires. He is mistaken, however, in calling this a "scientific frontier:" it is the natural frontier to which the want of political science has reduced us. Mr. Arnold Forster asks us to choose between England and the Admiralty; but since he wrote, the Admiralty has gone over to England. And all true Liberals will call upon the country at the General Election to replace it in the hands of those heaven-born financiers who have left us without a Navy after spending millions more than any former Government, and (as it turns out) nearly a million more than the Admiralty itself knew of!

The best paper in the *Contemporary* is Professor Romanes' Bede Lecture of the present year, "Mind and Motion." Going with the stream of modern science, which rushes on, carrying along things proved and unproved in glorious confusion, the Professor draws the line at Materialism. He cannot allow mind to be the result of motion; and his hypothesis—something like the *solvitur ambulando*—is that they are substantially identical. He will not say that mind is the *cause* of motion, though there is no motion without mind, but he finds in their identity "a philosophically adequate "conception of Deity," and if the voice of science "must of necessity speak the language of agnos-"ticism," we are not to tolerate the "aggressive "dogma" of Atheism. What wiseacres we moderns are! Mr. Goldwin Smith writes a very good article—if it were only in the least feasible—on the Administration of Ireland. The Irish peasantry are certainly not fit for the electoral franchise, nor the farmers either, out of Ulster. But then they have it—more is the pity—and we must take the consequences. The end will probably be civil war; all modern Liberalism leads to war. Victor Hugo again. Here his praises are sung by Mrs. Oliphant in a well-written criticism of his works and life. Mr. Fossett Lock follows with "a free English render-"ing of a tribute by the greatest of living Italian "poets—Giosuè Carducci;" hoping to "serve "the double purpose of a more sympathetic "estimate of the dead and a recognition of the "living genius little known in England." We confess our sympathies are with the living poet; better be unknown for ever than be introduced in a translation so hopelessly devoid of poetry. Principal Fairbairn "pegs away" in the true Presbyterian vein at Catholicism and Historical Criticism. We hope he is better up in the latter than the former. Captain Davidson gives the "Statistics "of the Army of Russia," making a total force on a war footing of nearly two millions of combatants, with 361,200 horses and 3,920 guns. Mrs. Haweis writes a pleasant paper on "Gardening in London," showing how little—except the taste—is needed to create a *rus in urbe*. Mr. Frazer has collected a higgledy-piggledy of usages about the dead, which he fantastically entitles "The Primitive Ghost and his Relations." Lord Harris writes on "Cricket"—excellently well as respects the game, but in the matter of grammar and composition not quite what is to be desired in an Under-Secretary of State. Mr. Gabriel Monod does the "Contemporary Life "and Thought in France;" and, of course, Victor Hugo comes again.

In *Macmillan* Mrs. Ritchie continues her pleasant commonplace story of "Mrs. Dymond;" very well told, but why told at all we do not yet see. Mr. Bernhard Wise sends from Sydney an Australian Appeal to the English Democracy—showing how different the Colonial view of their own affairs is from that which he finds in the English papers. He will be disappointed to find that the English Democracy does not care a straw for the Colonies or the Empire, or anything out of sight, unless it brings grist to its own mill. The Democracy of all times and countries clamours for cakes and holidays. It must be bribed by some immediate material sensual gain, and that is what they expect from the franchise. Their sweet voices are for the highest bidder, and the Radicals have the advantage of bribing with other people's property, while the Tories can only promise every one his own. In the Review of the Month the Editor plays the candid friend. "Foreign business has "been badly done—it has been dilatory, indecisive, "slovenly, and flaccid;" but it is all due to Mr. Gladstone's "backwardness in insisting on his "own views;" he has allowed the House of Commons to drive him into Jingoism. Once he actually "seemed to place himself at the head of "the military and forward party," but "he "suddenly recovered himself," and caved in to Russia without in the least affecting his authority in the House or the country The "moral" is that Mr. Gladstone is the Liberal dictator: he has only to assert himself, get rid of the Whigs, throw foreign politics to the winds, and come out the thorough Radical that he is, to secure absolute power for the rest of his life. We apprehend that no advice could be more agreeable to the right hon. gentleman. He was never backward to assert himself, whatever he may have done with his principles. This was shown in the dissolution of 1874, and in the late resignation: a diminution of his majority in the House is punished by a summary cashiering of the party. If the Radicals can assure him of a majority in the autumn, they may rely on his being absolute enough in destruction at home and abroad.

MISCELLANEOUS NOTICES.

Mrs. Marshall has added another pleasant story to her already long list of well-known and appreciated works. *The Mistress of Tayne Court* (Seeley and Co.) will fully sustain the high reputation of the writer, and the reader will be reluctant to pause in its perusal ere the end of the book is reached. Mrs. Marshall's remarkable powers of description are fully displayed in her accounts of Mentone. Her characters are, as usual, vigorously drawn, particularly those of Gwendoline Lloyd and Alan Karslake, to whom, after passing through many trials, she gives her hand and heart. Mrs. Marshall's books are always pleasant and wholesome reading, and the latest addition to them is no exception. Unlike many of the trashy stories of the present day it is worthy a place in every home, and may be read with profit by the most fastidious.

Dr. Neale's admirable story *Duchenier, a Tale of La Vendée*, has reached a second edition, and has well merited such a tribute to its popularity. The new edition, like its predecessor, is published by Messrs. J. Masters and Co., and may be thoroughly recommended as a present for young people as well as an interesting book for their elders.

In *A Canterbury Pilgrimage* (Seeley and Co.) Mr. and Mrs. Pennell have given us a most delightful account of a short journey they made from London to Canterbury on a tricycle, describing most vividly with pen and pencil the various scenes and incidents by the way. Their account of the excursion is interspersed with many well-told and humorous stories connected with the towns through which they passed and the places of interest they visited. The illustrations are abundant and admirably drawn. The book is well printed, and will prove acceptable to those who have done the journey in like manner, as well as to those who have not yet joined the rapidly-increasing band of cyclists.

Correspondence.

CHURCH OF ENGLAND FUNERAL AND MOURNING REFORM ASSOCIATION.

To the Editor of the John Bull.

Sir,—Permit me to call the attention of your readers to an advertisement elsewhere in your columns, announcing a conference to be held on the 21st inst., in Willis's-rooms, London, and to state that the council will be glad to receive the names of ladies and gentlemen willing to act as honorary local secretaries, who will organise meetings, form branches, arrange for the delivery of sermons, and otherwise make known the society's aims, in all parts of the kingdom. Communications may be sent to the Honorary Organising Secretary, Westow Vicarage, York, who will send for distribution the hereinafter-named publications of the society: *Address of the Clergy to their Parishioners, Appeal to Solicitors, Christian Burial*, a sermon preached by the honorary secretary in Manchester Cathedral; circular letters signed by the presidents and patrons; *Funeral Reform*, a speech by the Archbishop of York; *Objects of the Society, Utterances of Eminent Men, Substance of a Paper Read Before the Leeds Clergy Union, Suggestions, Reports of Conferences*, &c., &c.

I am, faithfully yours,
A. P. PUREY-CUST,
Chairman of Central Council.

Deanery, York, July 13, 1885.

LITERARY AND OTHER NOTES.

The picture of "The House of Commons in 1793," by Karl Anton Hickel, which was lately presented by the Emperor of Austria to Lady Paget, wife of the British Ambassador at Vienna, for the National Portrait Gallery, was exhibited at that institution for the first time on Tuesday. The history of the acquisition of the picture (the *Times* says) is curious, and the picture itself is of such historical importance that its arrival deserves more than a passing notice. "Last autumn Mr. Edward Stanhope, now Vice-President of the Council, and a trustee of the National Gallery, while pursuing his researches into the portraits of Pitt, became aware of the existence of this picture. The painter's name had been entirely forgotten, until, in 1867, the Loan Exhibition of National Portraits was held at South Kensington, when Lord Grey and Lord Houghton lent portraits of Erskine and Canning, the latter signed and dated 1794. This set Mr. Scharf, the director of the Portrait Gallery, on the track, and he discovered many facts about Hickel—that he was born at Leipa, on the Bohemian border, in 1745, studied at Vienna, went to Paris, and was much patronised by Marie Antoinette and the Princesse de Lemballe, and, after the execution of the Queen, fled to England. It was also ascertained that in 1793 he painted a picture, 15ft. by 11ft., of the British House of Commons, with Mr. Pitt speaking, a picture containing no fewer than ninety-six life-size portaits. But as to what had become of the picture Mr. Scharf could only learn that Cheeseman was to have engraved it, but did not, and that Hickel, having refused a large price for it, took it to Hamburg, where he died in 1798. This was all that could be told to Mr. Stanhope, who then had recourse to *Notes and Queries;* and through that medium he discovered that the picture had been bought of Hickel's heirs by the Emperor Francis in 1816, that it was in a store-room of the Belvedere Palace at Vienna, and that up to 1853 it had been shown to the public. It was then unearthed and photographed, and finally the Emperor most kindly presented it to Lady Paget for the National Portrait Gallery. The picture is artistically of considerable value, the composition being spirited and the likenesses as a rule excellent. Of course, many of the ninety-six are as yet unrecognised; but besides the unmistakeable Pitt, Fox, Sheridan, and Speaker Addington, Mr. Scharf has identified Henry and Robert Dundas, Erskine, Lord Mornington (wearing the blue ribbon of St. Patrick), the young Canning, Dudley Ryder, Sir Pepper Arden, and a few more. In course of time, no doubt, more will be identified. Anyhow, the picture is of the greatest interest to all English people, and forms an admirable pendant to Hayter's celebrated 'Reformed House of Commons,' which hangs opposite. The warm thanks of the public are due to the Emperor Francis Joseph for his graceful gift."

There is now on view at M'Queen and Sons' fine art gallery in Tottenham Court-road a highly finished portrait of General Gordon in the act of writing his last despatch from Khartoum. The painting is the work of Mr. A. Melville, and by express command of Her Majesty it was sent on to Windsor for inspection. Miss Gordon expresses herself pleased at the artistic finish of this very fine protrait. It is now posed amongst a splendid surrounding of paintings in the above gallery.

A festival was held on Tuesday evening in Westminster Abbey, with the twofold object of commemorating the two-hundredth anniversary of Handel's birth and of benefiting the Royal Society of Musicians, of which Handel was one of the first and most active members. The programme included the Dettingen Te Deum, with full orchestra and chorus; the concerto for organ and orchestra (No. 4 of second set); and the anthem, "Zadok the Priest." In addition, Mdme. Albani sang "Angels ever bright and fair." Dr. Stainer, the organist of St. Paul's, presided at the organ throughout the evening, save during the concerto, when he changed places with Dr. Bridge.

In a recent report of the Administration des Beaux Arts the receipts and expenditure of three of the leading theatres in Paris are stated—viz., the Opera, the Opéra Comique, and the Odéon. In the season between November and March last the total receipts of the Opera were 1,612,225*f.*, and the expenditure 1,766,376*f.*, showing a loss of 154,151*f.* The most profitable month was March, when the receipts amounted to 368,674*f.* During the season *Rigoletto* was produced at a cost of 20,068*f.*, and *Tabarin* of 29,882*f.* The Opéra Comique was more successful, having cleared during the season 2,703*f.* The receipts were 1,476,723*f.*, and the expenses 1,474,021*f.* The Odéon also made a loss of 11,690*f.*, the receipts being 449,108*f.*, and the expenditure 460,799*f.* The most profitable month for the Opéra Comique was January, when the receipts reached 250,320*f.*; and the same month was the most successful in the case of the Odéon, which realised 86,209*f.*

An account of the united parishes of St. Mary Woolnoth and St. Mary Woolchurch Haw, London, is now in active preparation by the Rev. A. W. Cornelius Hallen. The volume will contain full transcripts of the registers of baptisms, marriages, and burials of the two parishes from the commencement in 1538 to the year 1760; extracts from the churchwardens' accounts, a history of the old organ, a list of the rectors, and an account of old and interesting benefactions.

An address was last week delivered in the Merchants' Hall, Edinburgh, before the members of the Scotch Geographical Society, by Mr. Henry O'Neill, Her Britannic Majesty's Consul at Mozambique, on the subject of African exploration. Sir Donald Currie occupied the chair. Mr. O'Neill, in the course of his address, said that the ground he had passed over in Africa had been in twelve journeys, and had occupied nearly six years. He had covered about 4,000 miles, and nearly one-half of these had been over previously unbroken ground. Briefly, the chief results of those journeys had been to open up three new routes between the Nyassa district and the coast;—1, between Mozambique and Lake Shirwa and Blantyre; (2) from Blantyre to the Portuguese coast settlements of Angoche and Parapato; (3) from Quillimane to Blantyre. The Nyassa might now be reached by the longest of the three routes opened up by him in thirty days, and that from Quillimane to Blantyre in fourteen. The country was well-populated, food was fairly abundant, and the people were peaceable, helpful, and industrious. There was no reason whatever that any or all of the three routes he had laid down might not be constantly traversed by Europeans and become most valuable channels for the development of the trade and agricultural riches of the country. In his journeys he had been fortunate enough also to discover three minor lakes—one, Lake Lidedi, which was just south of the Ravuma, and close to the lake Nangadi, of which Livingstone first heard as he passed up north of that river when upon his last travels. The others were Lakes Amaramba and Cheuta, which had their outlet in the River Lugenda. About 5,000 observations had been taken by him to fix the positions of 57 of the most conspicuous points and principal features of the country, and nearly all these observations had been reported to be completely satisfactory by the scientific staff of the London Geographical Society. Mr. O'Neill then spoke of the good influence exercised by the missionaries of the Established and Free Churches on the natives and of the importance of the British holding the ground they already had gained in Africa for increasing and widening their commercial relations. A cordial vote of thanks was awarded to Mr. O'Neill for his address.

The committee of the Palestine Exploration Fund have just received an important communication from Mr. Laurence Oliphant, now at Halfa. It contains a survey, recently executed for them by Herr C. Schumacher, of about 200 square miles of the country lying east of the Lake of Galilee, the ancient Gaulanitis. This is a district almost unknown. It has been crossed by several travellers, including Mr. Laurence Oliphant, who described part of it in his *Land of Gilead*, but no part of it has ever before been scientifically examined and mapped. Among the discoveries made by Herr Schumacher is that of the lost city of Golan. There is an immense quantity of ruins in the country, and all those found in the part surveyed are planned and drawn to scale. Among them is a plan of the very curious subterranean city of Ed Dera'a, first mentioned by Welzstein, who visited it early in the century. The inscriptions found are mostly Greek. The legends and traditions collected by Herr Schumacher are principally connected with Job. In one place was a great field containing many hundreds of dolmens similar to those found by Herr Schumacher himself in the north and to those found by Captain Conder in Moab. A voluminous memoir with a list of Arabic names accompanies the map. At the meeting of the general committee recently held, Mr. James Glaisher in the chair, it was resolved that the work should be published as soon as possible, with all the plans and drawings, for presentation to the members of the society.

The annual meeting of the British Association is to be held at Aberdeen from September 9 to the 17th, under the presidency of Sir Lyon Playfair, K.C.B., M.P., Ph.D., LL.D., F.R.S. (L. and E.), F.C.S. A circular just issued by the local executive committee states that it is now twenty-six years since the association met in Aberbeen, under the distinguished presidency of the Prince Consort, and during the intervening period considerable progress has been made in everything which can render the meeting interesting and attractive to members of the association and others. Aberdeen is easily accessible from all parts of the kingdom. From London it can be reached by rail by any of the leading routes in about fifteen hours; and an improved railway service has been introduced. There are through carriages from London, sleeping cars are attached to all night trains, and during the visit of the association these will be continued to Aberdeen. All the railway companies issue cheap tourist tickets, available until December 31. A line of excellent steamers runs twice a week between London and Aberdeen; passage, a little over thirty hours. The railway companies have agreed to make special local arrangements for members of the association who may wish to reside a little distance from town. The Senatus of the University have placed at the disposal of the executive committee their halls and lecture-rooms in Marischal College, to be used as reception-rooms, and for the meetings of several of the sections, while the city and county authorities have similarly granted their halls, and sectional meetings will be held there, as well as in several other buildings situated in convenient proximity. For the general meetings, the Music-hall, capable of containing an audience of about 3,000, has been engaged, along with the adjoining rooms. It has been arranged to hold two conversaziones in the new Art Gallery and Gray's Art School adjoining, in which a loan collection of paintings, got together by the Aberdeen Artists' Society, will be on exhibition during the time of the meeting, as also collections illustrative of the natural history of the North of Scotland. Besides objects of interest in or near the city, such as the Cathedral, University, Market buildings, and harbour, there are, in the neighbourhood, numerous objects and places interesting to the antiquarian, the geologist, and others. The industries and manufactures of the city, such as granite polishing, shipbuilding, paper-making, comb-making, cotton, wool, and linen manufactures, will, it is believed, in many cases, be opened to visitors; and for places and objects at a distance excursions are being organised. These will include Upper Deeside, so well known as containing the Queen's residence of Balmoral and the health-giving resort of Braemar. In connection with these excursions, the Queen has granted permission for an excursion party visiting Balmoral, and special invitations have been intimated from the Earl of Aberdeen, Colonel Farquharson of Invercauld, Mr. William Cunliffe Brooks, M.P., Glentanar, and Mr. Alexander Irvine, of Drum, convener of the county. It will be in the power of members interested in the geology, natural history, and antiquities of the North of Scotland to combine with their attendance at the meeting visits to such places of interest as Portsoy, Elgin, and its Cathedral, Peterhead, the Eird Houses at Kildrummy and Glenkindie, the Vitrified Forts at Noth and Dunnydeer, the Kieselguhr of Loch Kinord, &c., and special excursions will be arranged for some of these. Aberdeen is connected by the Great North of Scotland Railway with the northern counties, and members may thus have the opportunity of seeing many other places of interest on the return journey, by availing themselves of the Highland Railway, the Caledonian Canal, or the Dingwall and Strome Ferry route by Skye.

Ecclesiastical.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Rev. R. Barrow, Curate of Spilsby and Hundleby, to Vicarage of Skendleby. Patron, the Baroness Willoughby D'Eresby.

Rev. T. W. Bull, to Rural Deanery of Midsomer Norton.

Rev. R. L. Calcraft, Rector of Little Steeping, to Rectory of Theddlethorpe St. Helen. Patron, the Baroness Willoughby D'Eresby.

Rev. Canon Colson, late Fellow of St. John's College, Cambridge, and Rector of Cuxton, to be Domestic Chaplain to the Bishop of Rochester.

Rev. P. R. De Jersey, to Vicarage of Pawlett.

Rev. H. C. Eden, to be London Diocesan Home Missionary.

Rev. J. E. G. Farmer, to Vicarage of Millbrook. Patron, the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe.

Rev. J. Hamley, to Vicarage of St. Anthony-in-Meneage. Patron, the Crown.

Rev. H. Hellier, to be Minister of Bath Penitentiary.

Rev. J. S. Hill, to Vicarage of Stowey-with-Bishops Sutton.

Rev. W. Hind, Vicar of St. Matthew's, Luton, to be Association Secretary to the Church Pastoral Aid Society for the South-West of England.

Rev. E. O. Hodgson, to Vicarage of Long Wittenham, Berks. Patrons, Exeter College, Oxon.

Rev. J. Hunnybun, to Rectory of Holton St. Mary, Suffolk, and Vicarage of Shelley.

Rev. R. Jackson, to Rectory of Little Thurlow, Suffolk.

Rev. W. H. Lance, to Rectory of Buckland St. Mary.

Rev. J. Lemon, to Vicarage of Combe St. Nicholas.

Rev. M. D. Malden, to Curacy of Crundale, Kent.

Rev. U. C. Mason, to Perpetual Curacy of Mabe. Patron, the Bishop of Truro.

Rev. J. Napleton, to Rectory of Wymington, Hants.

Rev. E. M. Perry, to be Curate-in-Charge of Mevagissey.

Rev. F. G. J. Robinson, to Perpetual Curacy of Castle Eden. Patron, Rev. John Burdon, Castle Eden.

Rev. R. C. F. Scott, to Rectory of Astwick-with-Arlsey, Beds.

Rev. C. A. Sinclair, to Rectory of Monewden, Suffolk. Patron, Mrs. Elizabeth Sarah Burman, of Lavington House, Stratford-on-Avon.

Rev. R. B. Slipper, to Rectory of Wheatacre All Saints', Norfolk. Patrons, Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge.

Rev. G. P. Turner, to Vicarage of St. Mary Magdalene, Enfield.

Rev. T. W. Wasdale-Watson, formerly Vicar of Skidby, Yorkshire, to Curacy of Upwey, Dorchester.

Rev. F. Wright-Anderson, to Vicarage of Shipton Bellinger. Patron, Sir John Kelk, Bart.

Licences to Curacies by the Bishop of London.—Revs. Herbert E. Campbell, to St. Michael's, Pimlico; William Dunckly, to St. Mary's, Paddington; Tom Owen Gower, to Holy Trinity, Stepney; Henry Hollingworth, to St. Mary Magdalene, Paddington; Arthur C. Holthouse, to Stoke Newington; Henry W. E. Molony, to St. Saviour's, Hoxton; George E. Stodart, to St. James's, Norlands; William B. White, to St. Pancras; Charles H. Wood, to Teddington.

Licences to Curacies by the Bishop of Bath and Wells.—Revs. Peter Whitfield Brancker, M.A., to St. John's, Taunton; Frederic Weller, M.A., to Crewkerne.

Licence to Curacy by the Bishop of Liverpool.—Rev. Douglas Adamson, M.A., to Walton-on-the-Hill.

Licences to Curacies by the Bishop of Truro.—Revs. John Pile, to St. George's, Truro; Algernon Sydney Osborne Sweet, to Maker.

OBITUARY.

July 6, at Ampton Rectory, the Rev. James Hilman Stuart, aged 79.

July 9, at Oak Lodge, Hildenborough, the Rev. Charles Hardy, B.A., formerly Vicar of Hayling Island, aged 81.

July 10, at Thorpland Hall, Fakenham, the Rev. Henry James Lee-Warner, aged 83.

July 10, at Clifton, the Rev. George Allen Proctor, late Vicar of Hatherden, formerly of St. James's, Southampton.

July 12, at Tyneham Rectory, Dorset, the Rev. William Truell, aged 81.

July 13, at Wramplingham Rectory, Norfolk, the Rev. Joseph Johnson Blick, Rector of Wramplingham, aged 51.

July 14, at the residence of his father, Fairfield, Shrewsbury, the Right Rev. Dr. Arthur Wm. Poole, Missionary Bishop in Japan.

UNIVERSITY AND COLLEGIATE.

OXFORD.

In a congregation held on Saturday morning in the Sheldonian Theatre, presided over by the Vice-Chancellor (Professor Jowett, Master of Balliol), the following degrees were conferred:—

M.A.—E. M. Barney, Merton; F. St. C. Grimwood, Merton; R. Hutton-Hall, Merton; T. S. Smith, Exeter; J. Richards, Exeter; F. C. Fisher, Oriel; E. B. Hawkshaw, Oriel; A. J. Lippitt, New; W. J. Ashley, Lincoln; A. C. Spence, Brasenose; A. Hughes, Corpus Christi; Sir C. E. Adam, Christ John's; F. F. Fleet, Worcester; J. W. Morris, Worcester; T. Hertford; N. Germon, St. Mary Hall; S. E. Clarke, St. Mary Hall.

B.M.—F. J. Smith, Balliol.

B.A.—P. M. Wathen and H. A. Howe, University; H. A. Crump, L. M. Winch, and G. F. Moriarty, Balliol; A. M. Voysey and F. L. Bell, Merton; T. H. Dodson, C. Davis, S. E. Cottam, A. M. Coll, E. T. Talbot, R. W. Tattersall, H. H. Ramsay, and P. J. Donovan, Exeter; C. C. Bosanquet, Hon. H. G. Jolliffe, and J. L. Monckton, Oriel; J. S. Davies, T. Denham, and G. J. Yates, Queen's; G. C. Bourne, E. L. C. Clapton, L. E. Arden, H. W. Pike, and E. D. Romestin, New; J. H. Hopkinson, E. O. Leggatt, G. H. Sharpe, and W. C. Tuting, Lincoln; W. E. Macray, All Souls; F. B. Rogers, W. A. Garrard, G. W. Barrow, J. Sands, and J. W. Maclaren, Magdalen; W. H. Jacques, Brasenose; J. F. Hastings, Corpus Christi; Viscount Pakenham, T. Wareing, and G. E. Garforth, Christ Church; W. S. Heathcote, J. J. White, and R. E. Holmes, Trinity; R. B. Johnson, A. L. Brine, and J. R. Vincent, St. John's; L. L. Davies, Jesus; A. E. Hunt, F. W. Bentley, and M. A. Shorland, Wadham; J. R. Johnson, F. F. Fleet, A. A. Eady, C. B. Longland, A. C. Elgar, G. St. J. Topham, and L. E. Fawcus, Worcester; T. Cooper, R. M. Kirwan, J. H. Waugh, A. S. Keeling, H. S. Gill, E. C. Vincent, C. W. Sparkes, A. T. Hunt, W. Jacob, and H. H. Shaw, Keble; H. L. Warnford, G. E. Milner, T. L. Jenkyns, A. T. Richardson, W. F. Duckworth, J. S. Gale, and A. Irwin, Hertford; E. Havergal, St. Edmund Hall; J. A. Smith, E. J. Wood, R. Williams, T. B. Blathwayt, H. A. Hodges, and F. E. White, non-collegiate.

MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

The Archbishop of York preached on Sunday morning for the Poor Clergy Relief Corporation at St. Michael's, Chester-square. Among the congregation were the Princess Victoria and Prince Adolphus Charles of Teck.

The Bishop of Lichfield held a special service in his Cathedral on Saturday afternoon on the seventh anniversary of his enthronisation. There was a large attendance of clergy from all parts of the diocese, to whom the Bishop spoke of what had been accomplished in the past and of his hopes for the future.

The Rev. William Hind, M.A., vicar of St. Matthew's, Luton, has been appointed Association Secretary to the Church Pastoral Aid Society for the South-West of England.

The Rev. R. G. Fowell, Association Secretary of the Church Pastoral Aid Society for the South-west of England, has been appointed Principal and Professor of Divinity in the Divinity College of Huron.

On Saturday afternoon the Bishop of London laid the foundation-stone of the new church of St. Clement's, Fulham Palace Road, Hammersmith. The new church, which will accommodate 800 persons, is to be erected at a cost of £7,000, towards which £5,600 has been subscribed.

The Rev. Arthur Robins and some of his friends have just placed a mural cross of white marble, surmounted with a wreath, in the chancel of Holy Trinity Parish Church, Windsor, to the memory of the late Colonel Burnaby.

The sanctuary of the parish church of Folkestone, a building erected some 800 years ago, and of great interest from an antiquarian point of view, as well as from the fact of containing a splendid memorial to Harvey, the discoverer of the circulation of the blood, was reopened on Wednesday, the sermon being preached by the Rev. J. Ponsonby, vicar of St. Mary's, Munster-square, London. The Dean of Manchester preached in the evening.

Dr. Poole, the Bishop in Japan, has been compelled by serious illness to resign his See, and he is on the point of returning to England. Dr. Arthur William Poole graduated from Worcester (Third-Class *Lit. Hum.*) in 1873, but was not ordained till 1876. He was a curate at St. Aldate's (1876-8), master of Noble High School, Masulipatam (1878-81), and Church Missionary Society's missionary at Telegu (1882-3). On the 18th of October, 1883, he was consecrated at Lambeth Palace Chapel by Archbishop Benson, assisted by the Bishops of Bath and Wells, Dover, and Lahore, and by Bishop Caldwell.

The Rev. H. A. Walker has placed the resignation of St. James's, Hatcham, in the hands of the Bishop of Rochester, and it has been accepted.

The Central Council of Diocesan Conferences will meet at the National Society's House, Westminster, on Tuesday and Wednesday next. The agenda on the former day will include special explanations of the Pluralities Bill and the Burial-grounds Bill, given by Mr. Stanley Leighton, M.P., and the Rev. Chancellor Espin. The following resolutions will be brought forward:—

That the Bill for Intermediate Education (Wales) involves the adoption of several grave and novel principles, which are equally applicable to England, and that there is an immediate need for united action on the part of Churchmen to resist any legislation which is inconsistent with existing trusts and endowments for religious teaching.—(Canon Williams and Mr. W. Trevor Parkins.)

That the Dean and Chapters Bill deserves serious consideration from all who desire to preserve the Cathedrals of the country, whilst maintaining the due rights and powers of their governing bodies.—(Mr. Beresford Hope, M.P., and the Dean of Lichfield.)

That this conference is of opinion that the most vigorous opposition should be made to Mr. Dick-Peddie's Church of Scotland Disestablishment Bill, inasmuch as any such scheme, if sanctioned by Parliament, would tend to destroy the Christian character of Scotland as a nation, and would greatly weaken the position of our own beloved National Church.—(Mr. F. S. Powell.)

That this Council deprecates any change in existing laws or usages in connection with the observance of Sunday.—(Canon Campion and Mr. Sydney Gedge.)

On Wednesday the business will be the following motions (*inter alia*):—

That the question of emigration in its social and religious aspects is well deserving of consideration by the diocesan conferences and Churchmen generally, with a view especially of promoting the best interests of emigrants and more direct communication on their behalf in the Church at home and in the colonies.—(The Master of the Charterhouse.)

That the distinct interest of the masses in the preservation of the National Church is a subject worthy of special attention by the diocesan conferences at the present time.—(Mr. W. Egerton Hubbard and the Rev. Henry Roe.)

At the annual meeting of the Rochester Diocesan Society yesterday week, the Bishop presiding, the report for the past year was adopted, which, while showing that further funds are urgently needed for supplying the various agencies necessary to meet the rapidly increasing population of the diocese, expressed much satisfaction at the establishment of Missions in some of the poorest parishes of south London by four Cambridge colleges—namely, St. John's, Clare, Pembroke, and Trinity, and also by Charterhouse and Wellington.

The inaugural meeting of the Ladies' Home Mission Association, held at Fulham Palace on July 1st, was followed by a drawing-room meeting on Wednesday last at 17, Grosvenor-square, to which, by the kindness of Mr. and Mrs. Benyon, a large number of ladies were invited. The Bishop of Oxford, as chairman, in the course of his introductory remarks, said that though his diocese did not need the help of the Additional Curates' Society so much as many other dioceses, yet he felt it was impossible to overestimate the influence of the Home Missionary clergy in the large centres of population. The Bishop of St. Albans thought the ladies of the London diocese ought to be able to effect as much as the associates of the St. Albans branch, who last year raised £1,450. The Bishop of Bedford illustrated the needs of the East-end, from his daily experience, and the singular appreciation in the East-end of all spiritual blessings. Canon Gregory moved a vote of thanks to the Chairman, the speakers, and Mr. and Mrs. Benyon, which was seconded by Mr. J. A. Shaw Stewart, and the meeting was brought to a close with the Benediction. All ladies who are willing to co-operate in this work are requested to communicate with Mrs. Temple, the Palace, Fulham, S.W.

A *soirée* was held last week at Nottingham Castle, and was attended by no fewer then seventeen hundred teachers of Church Sunday-schools. The Bishop of Southwell delivered an address, in which he said there was that evening a great army in that Castle of Nottingham, and they could not help looking back to those days when, no doubt, they might have been divided in opinion as to the good of that great civil war which marked that site centuries ago. But whatever their opinions might be of that war, no one who had any knowledge of history could fail to know that that war was won by the religious spirit of men who, while they pondered upon the weakness of statesmen, upon the weakness of the Court, yet knew they had to raise the spirit of truth against the clouded age of vice and immorality. What they wanted was men who believed and who would die for their belief, men who would come out of their own earthly interests, and would set God's cause above all the temptations and the interests of the world about them, and would fight and would die in quiet, strong, stubborn faith, like the Ironsides, that could stand the collision of war and not be broken. And that was the spirit of their war. If they were to prevail they must believe that the cause of God would prevail; if they had truth in their hearts, and if they went out to fight and cared to win, and said they would not stay till they had won, they must have spirit. They had no brighter example before them in the country of a self-denying, self-sacrificing, lofty servant of God than they had in the Queen of these islands.

The *Lincolnshire Chronicle* says that the Rev. Thomas Wimberley Mossman, rector of East Torrington and vicar of West Torrington, near Wragby, whose secession to the Church of Rome was announced last week, breathed his last at the rectory, in the course of Sunday night or early on Monday week. Mr. Mossman had resigned the livings in question, which he had held since 1859, in order that he might become a member of the Roman Catholic Church; but the legal formalities in connection with the relinquishment of his trust requiring some five or six weeks for their completion, he really died whilst he was rector.

The Hon. and Rev. E. V. Bligh, chairman of the Council of the Prayer-book Revision Society, has sent the following letter to Mr Holt, of the Church Association:—"33, *Portland-place, W., June 27*, 1885. Dear Mr. Holt—Your letter of the 20th only reached me this day from the country. I am gratified to observe you lay stress on the point that the Church Association could 'not with any consistency *oppose* changes likely to confirm and establish the Protestant construction of rubrics and ceremonies for which you contend.' I wish you could go a little further, and say it is the positive duty of the Church Association to join *with* the Prayer-book Revision Society in endeavouring to obtain these changes. In our opinion—and as I have pointed out before in the opinion of several Bishops—at least one important change is absolutely necessary to indicate the Protestant construction—viz., in the famous Ornaments Rubric. I observe with pleasure that you would 'gladly see certain things eliminated which prove a stumblingblock to some of our fellow Christians, &c.'; but you conclude—as I think too hastily—that because the late Ritual and Ecclesiastical Courts were unsatisfactorily constituted the matter is impracticable. I do not see why such a state of public opinion might not be brought about, that a *Protestant* Commission may issue a report and recommendations of *a very different character!* To your question, 'If you get revision how would it help you?' I would reply, '*Let us* have it first, and then you will see!' Do not, in any case, throw cold water upon our efforts, or represent to others that our speedy success is in the slightest degree incompatible with yours. In moving for revision—*i.e.*, if you took it up as an association, you would (*selon moi*) necessarily take up reform of the ecclesiastical law also—you would move for the substitution of shorter processes and more reasonable, while at the same time more speedy, penalties than at present. Upon the whole, I regard your official reply which has at length reached me as a very friendly one; and its concluding reference to the desirability of union emboldens me to say—and I trust I may say it with all modesty—that I should for one be extremely pleased to work in co-operation if the Church Association would make some further advance towards the Prayer-Book Revision Society in the sense of your letter and this my reply to it. Do you not perceive that in these days all true Conservatism *must* be progressive in the direction of reform? Just introduce that one word 'Reform' between the 'Church' and the 'Association' of your title, and you will then present to us of the Prayer-Book Revision Society a strong inducement to join you, and the obedience to the law and revision might be enforced without cavil from the *same* platform."

In placing before his parishioners his annual statement of accounts (showing a balance of about £8), the Rev. J. Bell Cox states that he declined to appear before the Court of the Province of York as, according to the evidence given before the Ecclesiastical Courts Commission, that was the only course for him to take while he demurred to the jurisdiction of the Court:—

"All, therefore, that remains for us to do is to patiently and prayerfully await events. The trial may end in a perfectly united congregation being broken up, or it may result in paralysing for a while a work, the sole object of which has been the setting forth the faith of the Gospel. For what purpose? Simply to gratify the wishes of one who states that he is the only 'complainant' against me.

"You will, therefore, I am sure, continue to support me in that course of action which, in humble submission to the will of God, I have felt it right to adopt.

"Were I to surrender the plain rubrics of the Prayer-Book to the contradictory and discredited utterances of a purely secular Court—even when echoed by the voice of an individual Bishop, but never ratified by the Convocation of the Church of England, it would be contrary to my ordination vow, so to minister the sacraments as this Church and realm hath received the same.

"All I desire is to be loyal to your rights of worship, which are not mine to tamper with; loyal to the spiritual jurisdiction of our Diocesan, which is intruded on by a State tribunal; loyal to the Catholic heritage of ceremonial, which the Fathers of the Reformation have handed on to the Church of England."

The parish, he says, has been struggling for five years to maintain its usefulness in presence of the difficulties caused by a diminished staff of clergy, the Bishop declining to license more curates or to allow a clergyman to work without a licence. It is, too, only by strict economy in everything that they have any balance in hand.

On Saturday a gathering of the late communicants of St. John's, Miles Platting, was held at the residence of Miss Sarah Heywood, of Acresfield, Pendleton. Besides the communicants, who numbered upwards of 250, there were present Sir Percival and Lady Heywood and other members of the family. It is stated that the late communicants are forming themselves into a St. John's Church Society, and that the Rev. Sidney F. Green has accepted the chaplaincy. There are already about three hundred members.

During Wednesday afternoon's service in Lincoln Cathedral, the new Dean of Lincoln (the Rev. W. J. Butler) was installed by the sub-Dean, in the presence of the Bishops of Lincoln and Nottingham, the Dean of Worcester (Lord A. Compton), the vicar of Wantage, some thirty members of the Cathedral body, and a large congregation. The Dean presented his letters patent to the Chapter House, after which the sub-Dean gave him the New Testament, and invested him with all the rights of Dean. A procession was then formed to the choir, the Te Deum being sung, and on arrival at the altar the Dean said the Lord's Prayer, the people joining in the last two petitions, and the sub-Dean said special collects and suffrages. The Dean promised to observe, "as far as in me lies and I lawfully may, the Laudum or award of the venerable father in God, of pious memory, William Alnwick, sometime Bishop of Lincoln." At the close of evening prayer the members of the Chapter promised obedience to the Dean.

In reply to a letter calling the attention of the Bishops to the removal of Prince Edward of Wales from a private pew in Yarmouth parish church, on the 10th of May, his Royal Highness having attended church with his militia regiment, the Bishop of St. Asaph writes as follows:—"*June* 29, 1885.—Dear sir—I can only hope that the deplorable incident of the pew system, by which Prince Edward of Wales was ejected by the owner from a pew in Yarmouth parish church, may be the means of effectually putting down the unjust claims of any parishioner to an exclusive right in the parish churches of the land. The church should be free and open to all.—I am, dear sir, yours faithfully, J. ST. ASAPH."

The Bishop of Sydney writes to the editor of the *Standard*:—"I shall be glad to be allowed to contradict a report put forth in your columns by Mr. Broadhurst, M.P., that I have directed or advised the clergy of the diocese of Sydney to repel from Communion those who have contracted marriage with a deceased wife's sister. There is not the slightest foundation for such a statement, and I venture to think that (especially as it could not have been contradicted for some months) it should not have been given to the world under the cover of the vague phrase 'it is reported,' without some pains to ascertain its accuracy. The Bishops of New South Wales have collectively advised their clergy to obey the laws of the Church of England by declining to celebrate such marriages. The law of the colony (most unhappily, as I think) allows them; but, of course, it imposes no obligation to celebrate them, leaving each religious body to be guided by its own laws. I do not suppose that the warmest advocates of the Deceased Wife's Sister Bill in England would dream of attempting any coercion in this matter. Except in this common action of the Episcopate of the province, I have taken no step whatever. Personally, for reasons which I have publicly given, I hold that these marriages are, in themselves and in their logical consequences, injurious to the highest welfare of human society, and at variance with the Christian idea of marriage; and I shall always use any influence which I possess to discourage them. But discouragement is one thing; excommunication is altogether another."

At an influentially-attended meeting of the Executive Committee of the National Memorial to Archbishop Tait, held on Wednesday in the Jerusalem Chamber, the Dean of Westminster in the chair, it was announced that the total sum collected amounted to £11,800. The monumental portion of the memorial is now almost completed, the restoration of the chapel of Lambeth Palace, and the bust in Westminster Abbey by Armstead, R.A., being entirely finished, while it is hoped that the effigy and altar tomb by Mr. Boehm, R.A., and Mr. J. O. Scott, will be unveiled by the Archbishop of Canterbury at his visitation of Canterbury Cathedral in the ensuing autumn.—A letter from the Archbishop was read, in which his Grace stated that he had appointed the Rev. J. Cullin to be the Tait Missioner for the diocese of Canterbury.—All future subscriptions will be devoted to putting the Tait Mission Fund on a permanent basis. Subscriptions may be forwarded to the hon. treasurer, Mr. F. A. White, Kinross House, Cromwell-road, S.W., or the hon. secretary, the Rev. J. H. Ellison, 22, Hornton-street, S.W.

The Rev. A. Styleman Herring celebrated his "silver jubilee" at St. Paul's, Clerkenwell, on Sunday last. Among the many interesting episodes of his varied and active life, it may be mentioned that Mr. Herring's labours included the aiding out of 4,850 suitable persons to the colonies, with two visits and 22,000 miles of travel, to, from, and in Canada; the serving on several Lord Mayor's committees, especially the *Princess Alice* disaster, including the greater part of three weeks passed amid most harrowing scenes, &c., and the 500 dead bodies at Woolwich Dockyard; the terrible affair connected with the Clerkenwell explosion in 1867; and, as a clergyman, the visiting some 60,000 cases at their homes, ministering at upwards of 3,000 death-beds, besides the difficult work of preaching 800 times under "the canopy of heaven." The cholera year, as well as some severe winters, found him abundance of work, which were happily and successfully, for the benefit of the poor sufferers, carried out.

The following words were spoken in the Old Catholic Cathedral at Berne, by the British chaplain, before his sermon, on the occasion of the first service held there of the English and American Church, June 28th:—"For the information of visitors to Berne who might not be acquainted with the origin and present position of the Old Catholic Church in Switzerland, I take this occasion to state briefly that the Old Catholics represent at the present time, as nearly as possible, the primitive faith and order of our venerable Mother the Church of England. The beautiful edifice in which we now have the privilege to worship God was built not many years ago, when the Roman Catholic body in Berne was one. At the time when the late Pio Nono, with the doubtful concurrence of a so-called General Council, announced to the world the new articles of Faith on pain of excommunication, such as the Papal Supremacy, the Papal Infallibility, the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary, &c., &c., a large body of the Roman Catholics of Berne and other cantons of Switzerland boldly declined to receive the new Faith, and protested against it and so brought themselves under the Papal ban. But as they were still entitled to call themselves Catholics without the prefix 'Roman,' under the circumstances, they availed themselves of the provision of the Civil Government, and elected for themselves a Curé, and having the majority, the parish and its church became Old Catholic, holding fast the form of sound words as transmitted from the Apostles to our own times in preference to the traditions of the Papacy. Only three years ago the Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of England, and before that occasion, the Bishops of the Church of America, had their attention powerfully directed to the merits of the movement and its wondrous progress, which was so identical with that of their own Reformation—and the two Old Catholic Bishops, Reinkens and Herzog, Bishops respectively of Germany and Switzerland, received an invitation from the Archbishops and Bishops of the Church of England and the authorities of the University of Cambridge to visit England, and to give a public account of the reform movement in these countries, which they graciously accepted—and accordingly those Catholic prelates proceeded to England and received an enthusiastic reception from every Christian there who looked for the coming of the Kingdom of God. Suffice it that these prelates have received the right hand of fellowship from the English and American Bishops, and in the mutual partaking of that highest act of Christian love and fellowship, the reception of the Holy Eucharist, in their character of Bishops in the Church of God, was for ever exhibited and cemented that perfect symbol of recognition and of full spiritual communion between the Churches concerned. I have only to add that I cannot adequately express to Bishop Herzog my personal gratitude for the generous and spontaneous offer of his church for the celebration of our English and American services and his spiritual refreshment of us in this foreign land. Let us, therefore, in the words of the great apostle in similar circumstances, pray the Lord to give mercy unto him and his house at that day; and may the Kingdom of God *come* in Switzerland through his means." Since these words were spoken, the chaplain has received the following memorandum from the Right Rev. Bishop Titcomb, his Bishop:—"I have consulted the Bishop of London, and we *both* consent to your acceptance of Bishop Herzog's kind offer of the Old Catholic church. Thank him for *me*."

A correspondent of the *Church Times* in the diocese of Qu'Appelle, N.W. Canada, writes:—"It may be of interest to the many, and certainly will be of great interest to some, to have a few notes of the work now being carried on in this new diocese. The Synod has just met and concluded its business, at Regina, and certainly to anyone who bears in mind that this is scarcely the end of the first year of the diocese's existence, it gave occasion for the greatest cause of thankfulness. The passing of the constitution and canons which shall for the future guide the Church in these parts, were the grave subjects before the members of the Synod, and after much deliberation, a code has been formulated that ought to satisfy even the strictest of Churchmen. The canons upon clerical and lay discipline are all that can be desired, and it now remains to be seen how all works. On Trinity Sunday three lay-readers were, after due examination by the Bishop's examining chaplain, the Rev. F. W. Pelly, admitted to the diaconate, Messrs. W. E. Brown, S. L. Agassiz, and P. K. Lyon. The service was a most impressive one, but seems from local prints to be scarcely yet understood even by our own people, especially with regard to the Bishop's robes. The sermon was preached by the Rev. W. W. Bolton. On the Tuesday, the day before the Synod, a Quiet Day was held, and proved most helpful to all who took part in it. The majority of the clergy had by then assembled for the Synod, and were glad to meet one another and spend a day in gaining strength for the work of the summer months which lay before them. Addresses were delivered by Bishop Anson, the Rev. D. Lewis, and the Rev. W. W. Bolton. Another clergyman, the Rev. C. Cooper, has just arrived to join the mission band. He has left a vicarage in Ireland, and becomes, like the rest, dependent upon the common purse. He takes charge at once of the colonies north of Moosomin. The Rev. S. Agassiz goes to Fort Pelly, 150 miles north of the track, to take up Indian work—living in a reservation—and also takes some settlements of white people within a radius of forty miles. A priest and a layman are expected to arrive from England in July to take up the Moose Mountain district, and these additions will complete the number immediately required. There are now working with the Bishop, nine priests, three deacons, and four lay-readers. A church has been erected and opened at Whitewood, and one at Moose Mountain, and one at Qu' Appelle (the pro-Cathedral), will be open this month of June. Strenuous efforts are being made to raise churches in Midimni Hat, Pense, Grenfell, and Moosomin, whilst several Union churches (the combined efforts of all parties), are completed in different outlying settlements. Two log churches for our communion are almost completed in the Montreal colony. It has been an intense pleasure to all of us working in the diocese that the Bishop should have received last month the noble gift (anonymous) of £1,500 for the church farm and collegiate buildings at Qu'Appelle station. The land has been secured, and tenders are out for the buildings. This will supply a known want, and the timely and noble gift has strengthened our hands and the Church generally in this part of the world. The numerous gifts of altar requisites of all kinds, which have been almost showered upon the diocese, are another cause of much thankfulness. Yet all that has been sent is soon swallowed up; the area so vast being quickly settled, and demands always coming in for the making of the worship of God glorious. Looking back upon the past year, none either working or interested in this mission can but heartily thank God and take courage for the future."

Church work of a quite unobtrusive kind has been carried on in few places more perseverangly than in the parish of Norwood, Southall, Middlesex, which is situated only eight miles from the Marble Arch, and yet so near London is apparently quite in the heart of the country, and a very lovely country too, adjoining the Earl of Jersey's beautifully wooded Osterley Park. During the present rector's—the Rev. J. L. Macdonald—incumbency, there have been gradual improvements in the church and services. Ere this the chancel was occupied on Sundays by a portion of the congregation, and it was not an easy matter to dispossess those who claimed pews there, some by prescription, and others by what they considered faculty rights. However, the matter was brought to an issue in the obtaining of a faculty to make alterations in the chancel, &c., and this led to the choir being placed there, and shortly afterwards surpliced and cassocked, and henceforth "decency and order in all things" were apparent, and frequent services and early celebrations followed. A very successful eight days' mission, ending with Palm Sunday last, preached by the Rev. G. H. Manbey, priest-in-charge of Acton Green, gave a great fillip to Church work, and rallied many who had kept aloof around the "Excelsior" standard. On Sunday last as a memorial of this mission a handsome reredos of Caen stone with alabaster columns and beautifully illuminated panels, a new oak richly carved altar, with frontal and superfrontal of exquisite work, designed by Mr. Lamb, of Southampton-row, and carried out by a lady parishioner, and the pavement of the sanctuary with encaustic tiles, were dedicated with a choral celebration, followed by Matins, children's flower service in the afternoon, and a most hearty service in the evening, ending with a solemn *Te Deum*. This last was attended by a crowded congregation, who were urged on to further progress by the preacher, the Rev. G. H. Manbey, whose earnest, faithful words then, as well as during the mission, will no doubt long abide in the hearts of the people of Norwood.

The first Saturday in July will long be remembered by the members and friends of the thriving branch of the C.E.W.M.S. in Stanley, Chesterfield. That day had been fixed for the annual meeting of the branch, and as the Bishop of Southwell had kindly consented to be present, it was resolved to celebrate the event with more than ordinary *éclat*. There being no room large enough to accommodate the members expected, a spacious marquee was hired and erected by the kind permission of Mr. H. Knighton, in a field adjoining the reading rooms belonging to the branch in Lowgate. At 3 p.m. a public meeting was held, presided over by the Bishop of the diocese, and supported by the Rev. J. D. Macfarlane (rector of Stanley), J. Harry Buchanan, Holy Trinity, Ilkestone, F. J. Metcalf, Clay Cross, Mr. W. E. Helm, of Handley, Mr. F. Clater (secretary of the Stow Branch), Mr. F. A. Turner, of Netharthorpe, and Mr. W. Inglis (President of the general society). There were also present Rev. G. W. Botham, T. C. Hills, H. E. Ferry, and E. Reynolds, &c., and representatives from the branches of Masboro', Sheffield, Derby, Finsley, Clay Cross, and Whitwell. The proceedings opened with a hymn, followed by the usual office of the society said by Mr. Inglis. His lordship then delivered a most interesting and practical address, which cannot fail to assist the members in their work. Addresses were afterwards given by the president of the society, Mr. Helm and Revs. J. Harry Buchanan and F. J. Metcalf. This part of the programme was brought to a close by the usual vote of thanks, proposed by Mr. F. A. Turner, and seconded by Mr. Currie, of Masboro', and the benediction, pronounced by the Bishop of Southwell. The meeting was succeeded by an excellent tea, which was speedily placed on the tables in the tent, and which was enjoyed by a very large number, the Bishop making up one of the happy party. After tea a procession was formed, consisting of the members of the branch, and other representatives, headed by the Clay Cross drum and fife band and enlivened by two beautiful banners, which then wended its way to the churchyard, where they were met by the choir, rector, and Bishop. All joined in the hymn, "We love the place, O God." Evensong was then sung in the parish church, and the Bishop preached an excellent sermon suitable to the occasion, from Rom. viii. 6. There was a large and attentive congregation. On Sunday morning the members and friends (including the General President) attended the celebration of Holy Communion at 7.30, when the Bishop was the celebrant. In the afternoon a very interesting meeting was held in the marquee, when Mr. Lathbury, vice president of the Derby branch, gave a short address, followed by Mr. Inglis, who gave one of his stirring mission addresses. This brought to a close one of the most successful gatherings ever held by the Stanley branch, who by their activity deserve their well-merited success.

OVERPRESSURE IN BOARD SCHOOLS.

Mr. Buxton presided on Thursday at the weekly meeting of the London School Board, held at the offices, Victoria Embankment.

The report of the Special Committee on the question of "overpressure" in the schools of the Board was laid before the Board by Mr. Bousfield. The committee were appointed as long ago as November last, when the question was brought to public notice by Dr. Crichton Browne. The committee had examined witnesses who had special knowledge of the work in Board schools, and had received information from 260 experienced head teachers in all parts of London. They had also endeavoured to obtain the assistance of eminent medical men in order to deal with the assertions of Dr. Crichton Browne that the effect of the alleged overpressure had been to seriously affect the health of the children; but they had been unable to obtain the co-operation of those who would have spoken with "sufficient authority." The committee then followed Dr. C. Browne's action, as narrated by him in his letter in the *Times* of last October, and all the teachers of the schools he visited were examined. The committee, in dealing with the class of children in the Board schools, said that these might be said, roughly, to range between two social extremes, and their grouping in the schools largely depended upon the district of London in which they lived. In many of the suburban and in some of the central regions the parents were clerks, small shopkeepers, or mechanics in receipt of from 30s. to 60s. a week or upwards; their homes were comfortable and their children were well clothed and fed. With these children there was little danger of general overpressure of school work; as a rule, they were healthy, physically and mentally. There were, however, the report continued, very many children in Board schools of a different class. Public attention had recently been largely drawn to the evils of the crowded, squalid, dirty, bare, and infectious homes in which the lowest classes of London dwell. The mental and moral atmosphere of such homes, instead of aiding the exertions of the teachers and the influence of the schools in making the children useful members of society, was a constantly debasing influence upon them with which the schools had to fight. There were many other poor homes, also, where there was such a struggle with poverty, and where the earnings were so small as hardly to provide the bare necessaries of life, that lodging, food, and clothing were only provided for the children on the most meagre scale. In both these cases the air of the dwellings and the neighbourhood in which they are was generally close and unwholesome, and the children were unhealthy. Those children the Board made great efforts to attract and force into the schools, and they must be taken as they were. But the committee were convinced that whatever might be the condition of the children, whether they came from comfortable or from squalid and filthy homes, they greatly gained physically, mentally, and morally by being able to attend comfortable schools. Children who are half-clothed and fed were happier there than in the streets. The obviously dull and even the weak-minded gained ideas of order in the schools. As to the principle of payment by results, attacked by Dr. Crichton Browne and by some of the teachers, it was a principle which the State was bound to secure, and the nature of the education given by the Board was that laid down by the authority of Parliament. The committee had found no ground for believing that the annual Government examination in their schools was awaited by the children with fear or unhealthy anxiety, as supposed by Dr. C. Browne. The committee believed that no better system for improving the health and intelligence of the infants could be adopted than that of the Kindergarten, and wished to see it adopted in spirit in every school.

In conclusion, the Special Committee summarise their opinion thus:—

(*a*) That the inquiry has not disclosed the systematic and universal overpressure of large numbers of children in the Board schools described in Dr. Crichton Browne's report, but, on the contrary, it has shown that, notwithstanding frequent illfeeding and bad homes, they are gaining physical, moral, and intellectual benefit from attending school.

(*b*) That the inquiry has disclosed overpressure of some children, but that this overpressure is confined to a comparatively small number.

(*c*) That such over-pressure as exists is not a necessary consequence of the school system, but is due partly to the action of the parents, who press their children with a view of getting them released from attendance as soon as possible; partly to the sickly and underfed condition of some children; partly to the wretched state of some of their homes; partly to the irregularity of attendance, and, in some instances, to unintelligent and unsympathetic methods of teaching.

(*d*) That the School Board for London and the Education Department have already in various important ways modified their rules and practice so as to avoid any overpressure, but that there are certain other modifications and alterations with regard to them which the committee consider would still further tend in the same direction and to the benefit of the children attending the schools.

With this view the committee recommend:—

(1) That the Board grant facilities to local managers and to other responsible persons for the provision on the school premises of penny dinners on self-supporting principles for elementary school children, where it can be done without interference with school work or injury to the school buildings.

(2) That a short statement of the admonitory symptoms of diseases likely to affect children, whether arising from over-work or otherwise, be drawn up by medical authority for the use of the teachers and local managers.

(3) That further encouragement be given to physical exercises and games both in and out of school hours.

(4) That home lessons should not be given to children unless the circumstances of their homes are entirely favourable and the parents give encouragement to them, and that they should never be set in infants' schools.

(5) That drawing should be made an optional subject in girls' schools.

(6) That needlework in girls' schools should, as a rule, be taken for examination as a class subject, and not for the shilling grant.

(7) That the School Management Committee be instructed, in assessing the work of the schools, to take into consideration all the circumstances of the schools and of the children; and be also instructed not to vary the assessment of Her Majesty's inspector, as expressed in the merit grant on account of facts mentioned in his report, except under special circumstances.

(8) That a review of the children who have been instructed in the First Standard in an infants' school shall be made after the school examination, with a view of keeping in the First Standard in the upper schools those children who are unable to do the work of the Second Standard without overpressure.

(9) That a memorial be presented to the Education Department, respectfully drawing their attention to the facts stated in this report, and in the evidence appended thereto, and asking them especially to consider the following suggestions:—(*a*) That greater uniformity of method and of standard of work is desirable on the part of her Majesty's Inspectors. (*b*) That, with a view of discouraging irregularity of attendance and consequent pressure of work, children who have not made a certain number of necessary attendances during the twenty-two weeks may be refused examination. (*c*) That in estimating the merit of a school greater attention be paid to the due promotion of children who are able to progress more quickly than the average of scholars. (*d*) That a loss of grant shall not occur in infants' schools, in the case of boys not taking needlework, where a special time-table for them is approved by Her Majesty's inspector. (*e*) That authority be given to teachers, under supervision, to classify their children in different subjects according to their abilities.

It was decided that the report should be "received," and that the discussion upon it, and upon proposals to be made by Mr. Bousfield, shall come on early at a future meeting.

After a large amount of other business had been discharged, the Board adjourned.

AN EASTERN PRISON.

The Zanjir-Khana (literally, "The House of Chains") in a Persian town is a place seldom visited by Europeans. The gaol is an apparently insecure structure, having a mud wall about ten feet high. Half-a-dozen soldiers occupy the gateway; their unloaded muskets are piled in a corner. Three of the men are asleep under rugs. The other three, the guard on duty, are warming their hands over a small earthen pot full of live charcoal. Each man is provided with what is termed a *shisht per*, a heavy bludgeon surmounted by an iron head having six projections: a simple weapon, but one with which you might stun an ox. The sentry salutes on seeing a European, and immediately seizes one of the rusty muskets. He calls to the gaoler, who is a hungry-looking man in a dirty cloth coat. We have come to see the gaol; and this man, the governor of the prison, has no objection, for he knows he will get a fee, and by fees he lives. Fees from the prisoners, fees from the friends of the prisoners, fees perhaps from their enemies. We tell him it is our wish to explore the prison; at which the gaoler is very much surprised. "Go inside?" he says—"inside?" "Yes." We point out that the peep we have of the interior of the House of Chains does not satisfy us; for till now we have been merely looking through a square opening, which shows us a courtyard, on the sunny side of which are basking some five-and-thirty men, who look like villagers. "Bismillah! you are welcome; you Europeans are ever curious. Who wants to see the inside of a gaol? The outside is quite enough for most people." The gaoler indicates a narrow staircase; we ascend it, and find ourselves upon the roof of the rooms which form the four sides of the rectangular courtyard. A couple of small chambers are the quarters of the gaoler and his family. The female portion of it scuttle off: we take a seat at the open window, and open conversation with our host, while he prepares for us the hubble-bubble, which must be offered to every visitor, and never refused. As we sit thus overlooking the courtyard, we observe that the ragged men who are enjoying the warmth of the sun have perceived us, but they do not rise or move in the least.

"Have you many prisoners?" "Yes, a good many; the harvest was bad, so we are busy." Our host tells us that his salary is but four tomans—about 30s.—a month, irregularly paid, and that times are bad. Any great criminal, any rich man, is usually incarcerated in the house of the governor of his farrash-bashi; the prisoners we see are merely rabble, men of nothing; there is no profit attached to them. They have their rations, but what is that? There is little enough to be got out of the rations. "Two loaves a day; why if I tampered much with their accursed loaves these sons of burnt fathers would rise and trample me to death. The fact is, I draw rations for sixty prisoners; I have forty-five; but what profit is there in thirty loaves a day? Besides, I have to do the best I can. I have my perquisites." We ascertain that the perquisites consist of the clothes of the prisoners. But do these men surrender their clothes willingly? We are told that they usually do; but if they are obdurate they have to go into the *khelwut* (the private place). We express our desire to see the *khelwut*. "Certainly, on my eyes, if you wish it! but there is nothing to see, absolutely nothing." At the question whether there are any female prisoners, our informant holds up his hands in horror. "Here, female prisoners? When a woman in Persia misconducts herself, if imprisoned, she is simply detained in the house of a priest." "Where are the other prisoners, the ten we do not see?" "In the *khelwut*." We learn that of the ten unfortunates two are determined prison-breakers, three are left for death, and the other five are simply new arrivals; but they will join the bulk of the prisoners "when," as our informant puts it, "they have made me a present of their clothes." We inquire if there are many escapes. "No: they occur seldom—very seldom: and then only the rich—the liberal rich." We infer from this that in Persia a prisoner, if rich and willing to bribe, may escape. We point out that the guard is small, the walls not high, and the prisoners many. "To your feet!" shouts the gaoler. The five-and-thirty prisoners stand up, rising, however, slowly. We then see why escapes seldom occur. Each wears an iron collar, and this is linked to that of his neighbour by a heavy chain of bright iron. We notice, too, that every prisoner has a forked stick two feet long; with this, when sitting, he supports the weight of his chain.

As a rule there is a gaol delivery at each new year, and imprisonment for twelve months is regarded as a very severe sentence. The custom is that, except the great criminals, all the prisoners are liberated at the beginning of the new year, *if they have no property*, either with or without an application of the bastinado. A similar clearance takes place on each change of provincial governors. These occasions are much dreaded; for if the new governor wishes to make an example, then six, a dozen, or a score of prisoners may be executed at once. "Murderers only?" "Oh no; murderers, coiners, old offenders, highway robbers, sectaries of the Baab, burglars. Half the prisoners you see are ryots who can't or won't pay their taxes. They are not executed; but otherwise their treatment is the same: are they not *yaghi* (*i.e.*, in rebellion)?" Here a well-dressed man entered the room and sat down. "This gentleman, the Khan, is also a prisoner, but he boards with me: we have an arrangement." We note that the Khan wears no fetters and is well dressed. "I wear that at night, though," remarked the Khan, pointing to a huge block of wood with a hole in it to fit the ankle. "Of course, of course," remarked the gaoler, politely passing the hubble-bubble to his prisoner. We passed down into the courtyard and inspected the five-and-thirty men who composed the chain-gang. Each man had wrapped rags round his iron collar to prevent its galling him. Some had leg-fetters: these we were informed were old offenders or notorious prison-breakers. The fetters were heavy; some sets weighing half a hundred-weight, others much more. A large bare room, the only furniture of which were some heavy beams running down the middle, gave accommodation in the form of stocks for fifty prisoners. "We often place a foot, or even both feet, in this at night if a prisoner is refractory or condemned to death; but we don't use them habitually."

The *khelwut* was a low dark apartment, filthy in the extreme, the air almost poisonous with its ten inhabitants; and sometimes there were thirty. The three condemned men, ironed as were those outside, were sitting with both feet securely fixed in the *kang* (the Chinese have a similar word for a machine that restrains by its weight, but it is fastened round the neck), or beam. They looked at us with a dull and hopeless gaze. "Murderers," our informant whispers, "it is for to-morrow." The two prison-breakers and the five unfortunates, who as yet had not parted with their clothes, were in a row, all secured in the same manner, but unironed. The place was pestilential, and alive with vermin. "Do many die in this place?" we inquired, as we hastened into the open air. A smack of the lips was the enigmatical reply. The dress of the prisoners was simply a coarse canvas shirt and drawers of ragged blue cotton cloth, with old and tattered cotton shoes; but every man had a great-coat and a skull-cap, both of felt. The great-coat also serves for bedding. Two loaves of bread are the only rations.

As we left the prison the gaoler said with a smile, "Ah, sahib! we are more humane than you are; there are no vindictive punishments here, no long sentences, no lifelong imprisonments; and you see our prisoners do no work—absolutely none."—*St. James's Gazette.*

THE COURT.

The Queen and the Princesses, and the members of the Household, attended Divine service at Osborne on Sunday. The Rev. Canon Prothero, M.A., officiated.

The Prince of Wales, on behalf of the Queen, held a Levée at St. James's Palace at two o'clock on Monday. The new Cabinet Ministers, with few exceptions, were present, Lord Salisbury, Lord George Hamilton, and others arriving early. Nearly all the foreign Ministers at the Court of St. James's were present, and the Army and Navy were represented by a large number of officers. The Prince of Wales entered the reception-chamber shortly after two o'clock, being supported by the Duke of Connaught and the Duke of Cambridge.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Captain Bedford Pim was gazetted on Tuesday night as rear-admiral on the retired list.

Princess Frederica of Hanover on Wednesday afternoon opened a people's flower show and industrial exhibition in the grounds attached to Springfield House, Wandsworth-road. A distinguished company had assembled to meet the Princess, who was received by the vicar of All Saints', South Lambeth, and conducted to the marquee, where the Princess declared the show open, and subsequently inspected the various exhibits, which were very tastefully arranged. More than 140 prizes were competed for, and will be distributed on Saturday. On Wednesday afternoon the Marquis of Lorne opened at Hampstead some handsome new buildings for the International College, conducted on the Haysman system, which enables parents to send their children abroad for a part of every year. Speeches were made by the Marquis of Lorne, Lord Kensington, the Right Hon. A. S. Ayrton, Sir J. Whittaker Ellis, M.P., Sir Spencer Wilson, and the Earl of Shaftesbury.

The Prince and Princess of Wales, who arrived at Ripon on Tuesday evening on a visit to Lord Ripon at Studley Royal, went to Leeds on Wednesday morning to open the Yorkshire College, and received an enthusiastic welcome. They were accompanied by Lord Ripon, Mr. C. Sykes, M.P., and other guests from Studley, and were met by the Mayor and Mayoress, the Town Clerk, and the members of the corporation. On reaching the Townhall the Royal party were escorted to the dais, and the Mayor having addressed a few words of welcome, the town Clerk read the address of the corporation. The Prince of Wales, in reply, expressed pleasure at the kindly welcome accorded by so great an industrial centre as Leeds. The Freemasons of Leeds then presented an address to their Grand Master, and, amidst every loyal demonstration, the Royal party proceeded to the college and declared the institution open. Luncheon followed, and the Prince and Princess returned to Studley Royal.

The return of the Registrar-General shows that in London 2,420 births and 1,412 deaths were registered during last week. Allowing for increase of population, the births were 194, and the deaths 114, below the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last ten years. The annual death-rate per 1,000 from all causes, which had been so low as 16·3 and 17·5 in the two preceding weeks, further rose last week to 18·0 The 1,412 deaths included 11 from small-pox, 73 from measles, 12 from scarlet fever, 15 from diphtheria, 51 from whooping-cough, 10 from enteric fever, one from an ill-defined form of continued fever, 110 from diarrhœa and dysentery, 3 from cholera, and not one from typhus.

A meeting was held on Tuesday at the Social Science Rooms, Adelphi, Professor Henry Morley in the chair, to promote the interchange of pulpits between clergymen and Nonconformist ministers. Canon Fremantle said that a letter had been received from Dr. Allon expressing his approval of the object in view, and saying that his pulpit would always be at liberty for giving practical effect to it. The Rev. Dr. J. Hiles Hitchens had also written expressing hearty sympathy and co-operation. Several eminent clergymen had attended meetings at Eccleston-square Church. One had on several occasions preached for him, and another only recently took part in the marriage service of his (Dr. Hitchens's) daughter. Canon Fremantle also said that an opinion had been given by Mr. Courtney Kenny and Mr. Charles upon the law of the question, and that opinion was to the effect that a clergyman had a right to preach in any Nonconformist church in his own parish, and that a curate also had that right, but that a clergyman could not delegate the right to another. The law, as he understood it, allowed a lecture to be given by a Nonconformist from a Church pulpit, but it must not be a part of the regular service. He thought clergymen ought to avail themselves of the liberty given by the law, and there were many occasions on which Nonconformists could appear in Church pulpits. He suggested that a committee should be appointed to promote the carrying out of what the law allowed, and to draw up a Bill for presentation to Parliament. The Rev. D. E. Macgregor, of Paddington Chapel, said he was rather glad of the parochial limitation, as it was a greater test of fraternal union to exchange pulpits in one's own parish than to do so at a distance. The Rev. Mr. Hinchcliffe, of Maze-hill Chapel, Greenwich, spoke of his good relations with the vicar, the Rev. B. Lambert, but he would be more pleased if there could be a full reciprocity—a "free trade," so to speak. The Rev. Brooke Lambert said the clergy must not go beyond the wishes of their congregations. He remarked that Nonconformist ministers seemed to have educated their congregations more than Church ministers had done. In the subsequent discussion the Rev. T. Crow, of Stratford; Dr. Clifford, of Paddington; the Rev. A. Jephson; the Rev. H. Solly; the Rev. G. S. Reaney, of Stepney; Mr. C. L. Corkoran; the Rev. Johnson Barker, of New College; Mr. Shaen, and the Rev. S. Headlam took part. Resolutions were adopted for the appointment of a committee for the purpose of promoting an interchange of services between clergymen of the Church of England and those not in Anglican orders; the committee being requested to promote pulpit freedom—first, by gaining the assent of men of all shades of religious opinion to the object; secondly, by promoting the exercise of all facilities now existing for the purpose; and thirdly, by obtaining the recognition of pulpit freedom by law.

For the first time Apposition-day was held on Wednesday in the new premises erected by the Governors of St. Paul's School in the Hammersmith-road, West Kensington. There was a large attendance, especially of ladies, in the lofty, well-lighted great hall, to hear the speeches and witness the distribution of prizes. Amongst the company were Mr. W. W. Aston, Master of the Mercers' Company, accompanied by the Wardens, Messrs. Daniel Watney, General Holmes, and the Rev. H. Clementi Smith; Lord Arthur Russell, the Ven. Archdeacon Hessey, Canon Rowsell, the Rev. M. Barnard, and the Rev. W. Capes. The proceedings opened with a commemoration of the founder of the school, Dr. John Colet, Dean of St. Paul's, read by the Captain of the School, Hyslop. The reading of several papers followed, A. R. F. Hyslop distinguishing himself in Greek verse; R. Du Pontet in French prose; Hyslop again carried off the Sleath prize, for a Latin essay; S. A. Alexander securing the Thurston prize for Latin verse, and the Milton prize for English verse. Hyslop also took the Ollivant prize in divinity. The distribution of class prizes, consisting for the most part of handsomely bound books, followed. Then the Headmaster, Mr. F. W. Walker, delivered an address, in the course of which he referred to the fact that a year had gone since they left the old school under the shadows of the great Cathedral. It was painful to many of those present to have to turn their backs upon the past—on that place and those scenes so dear to them all, and hallowed by the memories of nearly four hundred years. For his own part he regretted it, as the severance of sacred associations. Moreover, he had looked forward with apprehension to the change, as to the effect it might have upon the boys under his care. He was thankful now to say that such fears had not been realised, for the good old traditions of order had been maintained. The spirit of self-government and discipline was here even stronger than ever it was in the City. In conclusion, in the names of the parents of the boys—who now numbered 360—and of the boys themselves, he thanked the Governors for the step they had taken. The Master briefly replied, saying it was his pleasing duty to convey to all present the sentiments of the Governors as to the state of the school, which they considered in all things satisfactory. The "speeches" followed, which included passages from Aristophanes, Shakespeare, and Labiche, and the entire proceedings closed with a cordial vote of thanks to the chairman. The school then broke up for the summer vacation.

At Lord's, yesterday week, a cricket match between Eton and Harrow commenced, Eton going in first and scoring 265. Harrow then scored 119 for one wicket before the call of time. On Saturday Harrow continued their innings, which finished for 324. Eton then again went in, and were got rid of for 151, leaving Harrow wanting 93 to win. This they accomplished with the loss of seven wickets, winning by three wickets barely two minutes before the time fixed for drawing stumps.

The officers and men of the Heavy Camel Corps were inspected by the Queen at Osborne on Wednesday. Her Majesty expressed to the corps her pleasure at seeing them back once more in England, and thanked them for what they had done for their country. Lieutenant.-Colonel the Hon. F. Boscawen, in reply, thanked Her Majesty for the honour she had conferred upon the corps.

The first annual meeting of the members of the London Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children was held at the Mansion House last week, under the presidency of Alderman Cotton, M.P. The Chairman, in opening the proceedings, expressed his regret at the unavoidable absence of the Lord Mayor, and remarked that he felt most warmly for the necessity of an institution of this kind. They had only to read the report to be satisfied of the want of humanity on the part of many parents of children, and to be convinced of the utility of that association. In Liverpool, and other large towns, similar institutions had been very successful, but in London the area of operation was so large that it was difficult to cope with the evils complained of. He was glad to say that the Chief Commissioner of Police had recognised the importance of the movement, and had given it all the support in his power. Dr. David Buxton read the report of the proceedings of the society during the nine months of its establishment, from which, among many other cases, it appeared that during this time the committee had under their consideration 53 cases of aggravated assault, 30 cases of starvation, and 12 of cases of an evil which was altogether unmentionable. Though the society's shelter in Harpur-street was not in any sense a home for cruelly-treated children, but only a temporary roof, pending trials and permanent disposals, 779 nights' lodgings had been given in it in the nine months it had been open, and 2,294 meals. One of the newest additions to the society's agency was a Committee of Disposal, under the presidency of Lady George Hamilton, the primary object of which was to protect children whose parents had been imprisoned for cruelty to them, when the parents resumed their custody. The Earl of Shaftesbury, in moving the adoption of the report, said he knew of no subject which was so terrible, and which deserved so much the attention of the public. It was satisfactory to notice that the Government intended to pass one or two clauses of the Criminal Law Amendment Act during the present session. He would have liked to see the whole Act passed, but at this period of the session that was almost impossible. It was gratifying to think that if this amended Bill were passed, they would be able to alter it at no far distant date. He advocated the society employing a night watchman; and, in conclusion, said that he was sanguine of success in the future, for during the whole of his long life he had always found that those who honoured God and strove for the temporal and spiritual improvement of His people, would be rewarded with His blessing. Canon Russell seconded the resolution, which was carried. Among those who were present were the Countess Spencer, Lady Ellis, the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, Lady George Hamilton, the Countess of Aberdeen, Mr. Burdett-Coutts, Sir Thomas Fowell Buxton, and others.

The Earl of Chichester presided on Monday at a meeting at the Mansion House in support of Miss M. L. Whately's Cairo English-Egyptian Mission. The English-Egyptian Schools and Bible Mission were begun in 1861, and now consist of two schools in Cairo for girls and boys, two smaller branch schools, and a medical mission. The scholars number nearly 800, the larger proportion of whom are Mohammedans, and the education is mainly carried on in Arabic. The Scriptures are made the chief study with all the scholars. In the medical mission the poor receive advice and remedies free of cost, and the Scriptures are read aloud in the waiting-rooms. The medical branch of the work has been in operation for seven years, and has been found the best means of reaching the hearts of the Moslems and Copts alike. The annual attendance of patients is over 5,000. Miss Whately described at some length the rise and progress of her work, which now costs about £1,300 a year, of which £400 is annually expended upon the medical mission. She explained the great change that had come over the people, who now in many cases eagerly desired a knowledge of Christian teaching and read the Bible with much avidity. The medical mission had been robbed during the war, and they were now in great need of further stores. The Rev. Dr. Tien, hon. secretary and chaplain of the mission, the Rev. Dr. Flavel Cook, and Mr. J. H. Tritton also addressed the meeting, and the proceedings closed with a vote of thanks to the chairman, proposed by Colonel Pinney.

The Hon. A. H. Kinnaird presided on Monday evening at the Edinburgh Castle, Limehouse, at a thanksgiving *fête* for the past twenty years' work of Dr. Barnardo's homes, and a "farewell" to 123 boys who left this week for Canada. There was a large attendance; the musical part of the proceedings being rendered by the Stratford Mizpah Band Choir, the Castle Choir, and others. Dr. Barnardo said the institutions now maintained 1,400 boys and girls, and they had been admitting children at the rate of 100 a month during the last four months, and hoped next year to have accommodation for 2,000 children. The Chairman remarked that too often people forgot to thank God for blessings He had given them, but he was sure they would all thank God when they saw the party of boys, which would make 1,730 who had been sent to what he hoped might prove a happier home, and where they might be the means of establishing the bonds of Christian brotherhood between the two countries more effectually. The Rev. Dr. Rosedale, vicar of St. Saviour's, Woolwich; Rev. W. H. Inglis, of St. Luke's, Hackney; Rev. Dr. W. Tyler, of Mile-end; and Mr. R. C. Morgan were also on the list of speakers.

Lord Wolseley, Lord C. Beresford, Sir Redvers Buller, and other officers from Egypt and the Soudan, landed at Dover on Monday afternoon, where they met with a cordial reception. They came on by train to Victoria Station, which was reached shortly before five o'clock, and there the welcome given the distinguished officers was very enthusiastic.

The Roman Catholic Bishops of Portsmouth and Emmaus, Mgr. Cahill, Vicar-General, Mgr. Godard, Chislehurst, Mgr. Croskell, Mgr. Williams, Canons Moore, Riley, Luck, Hall, and Applegattes, and a large number of other priests and laity, assembled at the distribution of prizes to the scholars of St. Mary's College, Woolhampton, near Reading. The ceremony took place in a portion of the new collegiate buildings which are being erected at a cost of £15,000.

At Wimbledon on Thursday the first stage of the competition for the Queen's Prize was completed by the firing at the six hundred yards range. Last year, in the three ranges of the first stage there were eighty scores of eighty-four and upwards; this year one hundred and thirty-eight competitors have scored eighty-four and upwards.

The steamer *Penedo*, on her way from the Baltic, coming up the Thames on Wednesday night, ran into the *Bertha*, lying at anchor off Gravesend, and sank her immediately. Five sailors who were in their berths were drowned; the captain and two other men were saved, but all their clothing went down with the vessel. The crew of the *Penedo* lent them dry clothing, and the local agent of the Shipwrecked Mariners' Society supplied them with the means of coming to London.

The Lord Mayor announced to the Court of Common Council on Thursday that he had received an official intimation from Lord Salisbury that Her Majesty the Queen had been graciously pleased to confer the honour of a baronetcy on him. Dr. Dresser Rogers moved that the Court offered its sincere congratulations to the Lord Mayor on the signal mark of Her Majesty's favour bestowed upon him, and trusted that he might be blessed with long life to enjoy it. He was expressing the opinion of every member of the Corporation and every citizen when he said that they had received with the greatest pleasure the intimation of the distinction conferred upon the Lord Mayor, who had added lustre to every position he had been called upon to occupy, and was esteemed universally throughout the country. Sir Benjamin Phillips seconded the resolution, which was carried unanimously. The Lord Mayor, in his reply, said he especially appreciated the words of Sir B. Phillips, as a leader in the City of the great political party to which he was opposed.

The students of the City and Guilds of the London Technical College entertained a large and fashionable company on Thursday evening in their building, Leonard-street, Finsbury. Various entertainments were provided for the guests. The many rooms on the basement were devoted to the exhibition of mechanical apparatus and machinery. Scientific apparatus filled the chambers of the other floors, whilst the tables were covered with photographs, microscopes, spectroscopes, &c., the exhibits being specially explained to the visitors by the gentlemen, and sometimes by the ladies, who conducted them over the exhibition. In one of the rooms was a lantern exhibition, and here interesting optical and polariscopic experiments were shown by Professor Silvanus P. Thompson, and spectrum analysis and crystallisation by Mr. John Castell-Evans. These gave evident delight to the spectators. One of the most prominent features of the evening's entertainment was a concert, in which selections from the works of classical composers were admirably rendered. A dramatic performance was given in the large hall.

Should the weather prove favourable a crew of eight Oxford oarsmen intend to row across the Channel from Dover to Calais on the 21st inst. In connection with this venture one of the crew writes as follows: "The boat which has been chosen is an Oxford torpid, about 60ft long, and it has been covered over fore and aft with canvas. We have also made an addition to it of 3in. storm-boards. The length of the boat makes a calm sea absolutely necessary for success, and therefore, though we have provisionally fixed upon Tuesday, the 21st, the actual day of starting is extremely uncertain. We intend to be accompanied by a steamer, so as not to incur any risk arising from the uncertainty of the weather, and we hope to give the boat a trial beforehand along the coast of Dover. The Channel was crossed, in 1855, in a four-oared galley, by four officers of the Royal Artillery, the journey being accomplished in five hours; but we are not aware that this has as yet been effected by an eight-oared boat, which ought to accomplish the distance in less time, especially as we have sliding seats."

The will (dated February 16, 1883), with two codicils (dated January 11 and March 26, 1884), of the Right Hon. Hugh M'Calmont, Earl Cairns, P.C., late of No. 5, Cromwell-houses, South Kensington, and of Lindisfarne, Bournemouth, who died on April 2 last, was proved on the 3rd inst. by Henry Hugh M'Neile, the brother-in-law, William M'Neile Cairns, the nephew, and Henry John Lowndes Graham, the executors, the value of the personal estate amounting to upwards of £148,000. The testator leaves to his wife his horses, carriages, harness, linen, china, glass, wines, and consumable stores, £1,000, and such of his furniture and books, to the value of £1,000, as she shall choose; one of his residences—No. 5, Cromwell-houses or Lindisfarne—as she may select, with such of the furniture and effects therein as she shall not be entitled to absolutely, for life; and he makes up her income, with what she is entitled to under settlement, to £4,500 per annum. He also leaves his plate to his wife, for life, and then to go with his settled property. To his daughter Mrs. Lilias Charlotte Sherbrooke, he bequeaths £2,000, and at the death of his wife, £5,000 upon trust, for her children, in addition to the money settled upon her at her marriage; the portions of his younger daughter and of his three younger sons, with what they are entitled to under settlement, are made up to £12,000 each, and he gives to each of them, on the death of his wife, a further sum of £5,000 if they attain twenty-five. Provision is also made for annual allowances to his younger children during his wife's lifetime. The residue of his real and personal estate is directed to be laid out in the purchase of freehold or copyhold manors, messuages, and hereditaments in England or Wales, to be held upon such trusts as his wife shall appoint; and, subject thereto, he settles the same on his eldest son, Arthur William (now Earl Cairns), for life, with remainder to his first and other sons successively in tail male.

The will (dated Dec. 31, 1878) of Colonel the Hon. Everard Henry Primrose, Grenadier Guards, Military Attaché at Vienna, late of No. 17. St. James's-square, who died on April 8 last, at Abou Fatmeh, in Egypt, was proved on the 29th ult., by the Earl of Rosebery, the acting executor, the value of the personal estate amounting to over £20,000. The testator gives £8,000 to his cousin, Edward Montagu Primrose; and the rest of his estate and effects, and everything he can give and dispose of, to his sister, Lady Mary Catherine Constance Primrose, for her separate use.

A mass meeting of the Salvation Army was held on Thursday night at Exeter Hall—"General" Booth presiding. Amongst those on the platform were Professor Stuart, M.P., Mr. Samuel Smith, M.P., Mr. Denny, Mr. Scott (City Chamberlain), Mrs. Booth, and Mrs. Josephine Butler. The proceedings commenced with the singing of hymns by the "Army," the members of which, together with their friends, filled the large hall to overflowing. "General" Booth said the "Army" had been aptly described as "misery strippers." Their mission was to strip the poor and the rich of their misery, and more especially to induce the latter to part with some of their riches and thus part with a deal of their misery at the same time. The main object of the meeting that night, however, was in reference to the note of alarm which had recently been raised in connection with the protection of young girls. The speaker then described the action taken by the "Army" in forming a commission of inquiry, the result of which had lately been published in a series of articles. The line of action thus adopted by the "Army" had led to the withdrawal of numerous members and considerable financial support, and they must now turn to the "fatherhood" of this nation for aid. The Government must raise the age of protection to eighteen years of age, and magistrates should have the power to issue search warrants with regard to suspicous houses. The "Army" proposed greatly to enlarge its operations immediately by establishing homes for the reclamation of fallen women, of whom it had been said there were 50,000 in London, whose average life in their calling was computed at three years. Skilled inquirers would be appointed, and branches established in San Francisco and New York. Near London they had been promised the gift of a site valued at £2,500, on which they proposed to erect a suitable building at a cost of £10,000. "General" Booth concluded by reading a letter written by Mrs. Booth to the Queen praying that the Bill for the protection of young girls might be reintroduced into the House of Commons during the present session, and dwelling upon the demoralisation and shame brought upon the children of the poor by the present state of the law. Her Majesty's reply was, he said, dated Balmoral Castle, June 6, and was as follows:—"The Dowager Duchess of Roxburghe presents her compliments to Mrs. Booth, and is desired by the Queen to acknowledge receipt of Mrs. Booth's letter of June 3, and to say that her Majesty, fully sympathising with Mrs. Booth on the painful subject to which it refers, has already had communication thereon with a lady closely connected with the Government, to whom Mrs. Booth's letter will be immediately forwarded." Professor Stuart, M.P., moved the following resolution:—

That, viewing with horror and indignation the enormity of the crimes lately exposed, the meeting demanded that the law should be amended so as to protect women and children from the dangers to which they were now exposed, and called upon Parliament to pass during the present session a Bill which should raise the age of protection and secure the punishment of traders in vice, and which should give magistrates power to enable parents to search houses suspected of harbouring girls for immoral purposes.

Mrs. Josephine Butler seconded the motion, and called upon the men and women of England to help in the great work. Mrs. Booth urged that a petition of the mothers of England be presented to the Queen. Mr. Denny and Mr. Smith, M.P., also addressed the meeting, which concluded with the carrying of the resolution with acclamation.

The Select Committee of the House of Lords appointed to consider the Waterworks Clauses Act (1847) Amendment Bill, which has for its object the amendment of the general law in accordance with the decision of the House of Lords in Dobbs's case, met on Thursday, under the presidency of Earl Brownlow, for the purpose of hearing the Metropolitan Water Companies, by their agents, against the new system of valuation intended to be created. There was a large attendance of persons interested in the Metropolitan Water Companies, and also of gentlemen representing various local Assessment Committees, and the proceedings were characterised by considerable animation. Mr. Hollams, solicitor, who appeared as the agent of the Water Companies, gave the Committee at great length a history of the institution of the Metropolitan Water Companies. The chief objection which impressed itself upon the companies in regard to the provisions of the Bill was, he said, that it was quite impossible to adopt the system of valuation in use under the Metropolitan Rating Act, because of the injustice which it inflicted upon the ratepayers, and of the inaccurate way in which the general lists were made up. He maintained that the maximum reduction invariably made of 16 and two-thirds per cent. was manifestly unfair. The Bill would also put upon the companies the duty of inquiring into the valuation of houses throughout the whole of the metropolis. Considering that there was only one list prepared in each district, and that twenty-five days only were allowed to examine them, the companies could not do it. If the companies attempted to appeal it would create such a commotion as would be alarming to contemplate. Mr. Dewey, who was invited by the chairman to explain the valuation as made in the district of Islington, endeavoured to impress upon the Committee the fact that, although there might be a loss in some cases, it would be manifestly a gain to the Water Companies to adopt the valuation under the Metropolitan Valuation Act. The room was then cleared, and after a brief interval the parties were readmitted, when the Chairman said the committee had agreed to report the Bill to the House.

An exhibition of Irish lace and cottage industries, held by permission of the Committee of the Royal School of Art Needlework in their rooms in the Exhibition-road, South Kensington, is at present open to the public, and will continue open until the 21th inst. The object of the exhibition, which is under the patronage of the Princess of Wales, is the continuation and development of the impulse given to the Irish lace manufacture by the exhibition held at the Mansion-house in June, 1883. The exhibits comprise all kinds of hand-made lace and embroidery, from the finest point lace to common crochet, and specimens are to be found there of every kind of lace ever made in Ireland. Some of these specimens are over 150 years old, and others are copies of designs older still. Among the exhibits are notably some admirable and unique specimens of Innishmacsaint (which is principally made in Donegal), one beautiful piece of work being a copy of a flounce worn by Charles I. Another specimen, which has been frequently exhibited and is well known to connoisseurs, is a cradle cover in combination of point and embroidery. In addition to the exhibition proper, all the specimens of which are for sale, many loan exhibits have been contributed to enrich the show in the eyes of lace fanciers by Lady Brassey, Mrs. Morrison, Lady Margaret Charteris, and others. Specimens of hand-made Irish tweeds and friezes, hand-sewn underlinen, hand-knitted socks and stockings, and a variety of other useful and ornamental articles now manufactured by the peasants of Ireland are also shown, and the whole collection is well calculated to effect the purpose aimed at by its promoters, prominent among whom are Mrs. Blois-Turner, Miss Emily Leslie, Mrs. Ernest Hart, and Mrs. J. Flinn, whose desire is to benefit thousands of families in Ireland, and at the same time to show the world what beautiful and useful fabrics are being produced in the cottages of that country.

Dr. Frankland reports to the Registrar-General the results of the chemical analysis of the waters supplied to the inner and portions also of the outer circle of the metropolis during the month of June. Taking the average amount of organic impurity contained in a given volume of the Kent Company's water during the nine years ending December, 1876, as unity, he finds that the proportional amount contained in an equal volume of water supplied by each of the Metropolitan Water Companies, and by the Tottenham Local Board of Health, was:—Kent, 0·3; Colne Valley, 1·0; Tottenham, 1·1; New River, 1·3; Chelsea, 2·4; West Middlesex, 2·4; Lambeth, 2·9; East London, 2·9; Grand Junction, 3·2; Southwark, 3·4. The Thames water supplied by the Chelsea, West Middlesex, Southwark, Grand Junction, and Lambeth Companies contained, on the whole, slightly more organic matter than the previous month's samples, the increase being greatest in the case of the Southwark and Grand Junction Companies. All the samples were clear and bright. The water drawn from the Lea and distributed by the New River and East London Companies exhibited no material difference from the previous month's samples. The New River Company's supply contained less organic matter than any of the other river waters, while that of the East London Company resembled the Thames waters. Both waters were clear and bright on delivery. The deep-well water of the Kent Company and of the Tottenham Local Board of Health was as usual of excellent quality for drinking. The sample of the Colne Valley Company's water was turbid, but in other respects it was of its usual quality, and, being softened with lime, it was well fitted for washing. Seen through a stratum 2ft. deep, the waters presented the following appearances:—Kent and Tottenham, clear and colourless; New River, clear and nearly colourless; Chelsea, West Middlesex, Southwark, Grand Junction, Lambeth, and East London, clear and very pale yellow; Colne Valley, turbid and colourless.

Mdme. Sarah Bernhardt is staying at the Star and Garter Hotel, at Richmond, whither she repairs by train after the performance at the Gaiety. On Saturday night, however, when she made her *début*, the close of the theatre was so late that she missed her train, and with her maid took a hansom. The adventurous journey is thus described in the *Morning Post*:—"Richmond," said the fair fare. "Which way?" said the driver. "Your way, any way—Richmond!" The cabman drove off, and wandered, till after some time it dawned upon Mdme. Bernhardt that they were not making much way to their goal. "Où sommes-noas? Where we?" was now shouted through the trap. "Dunno, lost," was the unsatisfactory response. "Mais je ne veux pas être lostée," said Theodora, in her firmest tones. An explanation which ensued resulted in the cabman, in spite of offers of money, declining to go a step further, his "hoss was beat," he couldn't do it, and made some proof of sincerity by declining to take any fare. It was now very late, and the belated Empress and her attendant wandered about until a light revealed to them the shelter of a police-station. They found they were at Putney, and a policeman volunteered to show them the Richmond-road, along which they walked a long way with him, till, by extraordinary chance, they met a fire-engine returning from its duties at a small fire in the neighbourhood. This was hailed, and for a consideration drove them to the Star and Garter, where Theodora arrived on this extraordinary conveyance at four o'clock in the morning. The hotel was shut up; but in the early dawn a group soon collected, attracted by the appearance of the fire-engine, and imagining it had been summoned to the great hotel. Shouts of "Fire!" soon brought the inmates to the windows, and the doors were thrown open to welcome their guest after her strange adventure.

METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL.—The aggregate number of patients relieved during the week ending July 11 was—medical 833, surgical 374; total 1,207, of which 496 were new cases.

CAUTION.—WATER FILTRATION.—The public are cautioned, before purchasing Filters, to see that what they buy are really water purifiers, and not mere strainers, which latter, although rendering water bright, do not remove the organic and mineral impurities. In the instructions to the local boards of health by order of the Privy Council it has been distinctly stated that the old sponge filters are of no avail for purifying water. These filters are constantly advertised as a new patent, whereas the ONLY FILTERS, containing nothing but the purest ANIMAL CHARCOAL, are those supplied by the LONDON AND GENERAL WATER-PURIFYING COMPANY (Limited) 157, Strand (four doors from Somerset House), W.C.—Read "Water: its Impurities and Purification." Price 6d.

"laden with the scent of flowers,
And breath of odorous spring."

SPINNER'S TEA.—A company of merchants are now selling through Spinner & Co. the choicest tea that comes from India and China at 2s. 8d. a pound, in packets only. This is the perfection of tea, and will please the most fastidious.—Agents wanted in every town and village. For terms, apply to Spinner & Co., 60, Strand, London.—SPINNER & CO., London and Liverpool.

LATEST NEWS.

PARIS, July 17.

The Minister of War has received a telegram from General De Courcy, dated yesterday, stating that the General was about to proceed to Haiphong in order to confer with his divisional commanders. He would afterwards return to Hué, visiting several coast towns in Tonquin and Annam on his way back.

TAMATAVE, July 3.

Admiral Miot, Commander-in-Chief of the French forces in Madagascar, has had an interview with the Hova officers, the result of which has not yet transpired. Preparations are being made for the accommodation of the French reinforcements, which are shortly expected.

MADRID, July 17.

The official cholera bulletin, issued this morning, shows that there were 1,629 cases and 672 deaths in Spain yestesday.

KAIBAR, July 17.

Fatmeh was evacuated to-day.

The rearguard of the Dongola garrison is leaving, General Brackenbury being in command. His staff consists of Major Crofton, Lieutenant St. Aubyn, and Captain Boardman, R.N.

All the steamers have passed the Kaibar Cataract.

ST. PETERSBURG, July 17.

The semi-official *Journal de St. Pétersborg*, in an article to-day upon what it describes as the erroneous views expressed by the English papers upon the Zulficar question, says:—"On consulting Captain Peacock's map we see that Zulfikar is a valley between the Heri Rud and the foot of the mountains, and we must conclude that it is precisely this territory which forms the subject of England's engagement towards the Ameer. Russia, in fact, so understood the description of Zulfikar, and agreed in principle to leave this position to the Ameer. It is not, however, to be supposed that England could enter into any engagements with the Afghans as regards mountain passes not in question, extending in an easterly direction, and at present forming the subject of negotiation between the two Governments."

The *Standard* has received the following telegram from its correspondent in Teheran:—"The Russian forces on the line between Sarakhs and Pul-i-Khatun have permanently occupied three positions, all of which are in Persian territory."

The *Times* points out that the Russian case in the Zulfikar business is this:—

"The Russians say, if the Ameer is anxious about the security of his communications, so are we, and we cannot acquiesce in any arrangement that will imperil our road to Ak Robat. The Russians say, moreover, that much of the only practicable route from Zulfikar, or more particularly from the wells and important lake of Mulla Haria Taka, to their post at Ak Robat lies through the Zulficar Pass, while, according to our athorities, there is a direct route leaving the pass to the south-west. Russia wishes, therefore, that the question should be left to the Commissioners to decide upon the spot without any previous specification as to who is to hold the Zulfikar Pass. The English Government declare that it is as necessary to have an understanding on this question beforehand as on the points relating to Meruchak and Gulran. It is worthy of observation that the two Governments have now changed *rôles* in one important particular. In the earlier stages it was Russia who was all for deciding difficulties in London, and not on the spot. Now she has reversed her proposals, and wishes the Zulfikar question to be settled in the pass itself. The reason is believed to be the superiority of Mr. Condie Stephen's maps of this part of the frontier."

The Incorporated Society for Promoting the Enlargement, Building, and Repairing of Churches and Chapels held its usual monthly meeting (the last for the present session, to be resumed in November) on Thursday last, at the Society's offices, 2, Dean's-yard, Westminster, S.W.—Ven. the Archdeacon of Maidstone in the chair; there were also present Canon T. W. Perry, Rev. C. F. Norman, Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. G. H. W. Windsor Clive, M.P., Messrs. Richard Foster, Vice-President, J. F. France, S. Hilton, Arthur Powell, and Rev. R. Milburn Blakiston, secretary. Grants of money were made in aid of the following objects, viz:—Building new churches at Forest Side, St. Michael, in the parish of Sutton-in-Ashfield, near Mansfield, Notts, £40; Hermon Hill, Holy Trinity, in the parishes of Woodford and Wanstead, Essex, £200; Sneinton, St. Albans, near Nottingham, £40; Stamford Brook, St. Mary, in the parish of Hammersmith, Middlesex, £150; and Willesden, St. Andrew, Middlesex, £200. Enlarging or otherwise improving the accommodation in the churches at Lower Brixham, All Saints', Devon, £105; Forest Gate, Emmanuel, Essex, £75; Tanzor St. Mary, near Oundle, £25; and Llangadwaladr St. Cadwalladr, near Oswestry, £25. Grants were also made from the Special Mission Buildings Fund towards building schools or mission churches at Chester-park, in the parish of Fishponds, near Bristol, £15; Hatton, in the parish of Marston-on-Dove, near Derby, £25; Poplar, St. Saviour, Middlesex, £50; Clare College Mission, in the parish of All Saints', Rotherhithe, Surrey, £40; and the Ascension, Lavender-hill, in the parish of Battersea, Surrey, £35. The following grants for works completed were also paid:—Ask Vale, near Aldershot, £20; Alverstoke St. Mary, near Gosport, Hants, £200; Battersea, St. Andrew, Surrey, £200; Buckland, St. Michael's, near Broadway, Glo'ster, £20; Camborne, Cornwall, £20; East Leigh, Hants, £30; Eaton Bishop, near Hereford, £30; Goudhurst, Kent, £20; St. Goran Haven, Cornwall, £20; Luton Christ Church, near Chatham, Kent, £150, and £598 balance of Trust Fund; Milton, St. Paul, near Sittingbourne, Kent, £20; Northallerton, Yorkshire, £10; Preston Candover, Hants, £50; Stanford Bishop, St. James, near Bromyard, Hereford, £20; Westbere, All Saints, near Sturry, Kent, £10; and Woodnesborough, Kent, £25. The Society's funds are now, unhappily, exhausted; it is earnestly hoped that Churchmen will come forward to help this most important Church Society to make grants on a scale more in proportion to the needs required.

SOCIETY.

A marriage is arranged to take place between Sir Wm. F. Miller, Bart., of Glenlee, Barskimming, Ayrshire, and Miss Leith, eldest daughter of Sir George and Lady Leith-Buchanan, of Ross Priory, Dunbartonshire, and Drygrange, Melrose, N.B.

Also between Miss Ethel M. Burges, second daughter of Colonel and the Hon. Mrs. Burges, and Mr. Stronge, eldest son of Sir Calvert Stronge, Bart., and Lady Margaret Stronge, of Tynan Abbey, co. Armagh.

Also between Mr. Herbert Lauder Warren, R.N., son of Colonel Richard Warren, R.E., Commanding Royal Engineers of the Western District, and Miss Ella Millar, second daughter of the late Christian Hoyer Millar, Esq., of Blair Castle, Culross, N.B.

Also between Mr. David Bevan, younger son of Mr. Richard Lee Bevan, of Brixworth Hall, Northampton, and the Hon. Maud Brand, youngest daughter of Lord and Lady Hampden.

A fashionable congregation assembled at St. George's Church, Hanover-square, on Tuesday afternoon, to witness the marriage, by special licence, of Lord Vernon with Miss Frances Margaret Lawrance, daughter of Mr. Francis C. Lawrance, of New York. The wedding party began to arrive at the church at half-past two, the ceremony being appointed for three o'clock, and as the guests entered a favour of natural white flowers was handed to each. Flowers were a great feature of this wedding, the church being beautifully decorated with lilies, stocks, and a variety of other white flowers. The bridegroom was in attendance early, with the Hon. Guy Dawnay, M.P., as best man. The four bridesmaids awaited the bride near the font. They were tastefully dressed in white Indian muslin, with white moiré sashes, the skirts being flounced with lace, and the drapery across the front looped with bows of moiré ribbon, and had gold-crowned bonnets, pointed in front and edged all round with full plissés of net. Each wore a gold initial brooch surmounted by a coronet of pearls, the bridegroom's gift, and carried a lovely bouquet of cream-coloured flowers. At three o'clock the approach of the bride was made known by the band of the Scots Guards (to which regiment the bridegroom formerly belonged), stationed in the gallery, playing the Peers' March from *Iolanthe*. The bride entered the church on the arm of her father, who afterwards gave her away. She wore a handsome dress of cream duchesse satin, elaborately embroidered with sprays of silver, in which orange blossoms were woven. The petticoat was veiled with fine old point lace (her mother's gift), and the bodice was trimmed with a full plastron of the same, clusters of orange blossoms being fastened at the throat and waist. She wore a wreath of orange blossoms, and a small veil of the same exquisite lace was becomingly arranged in her hair, but did not cover the face. The Hon. Bertha Anson, the little daughter of Viscount and Viscountess Anson (who was dressed like the bridesmaids) carried the bride's train. Mrs. Lawrance, the bride's mother, wore an elegant dress of peach and white brocade, with front of pearl embroidered net, and white lace bonnet, trimmed with peach feathers. The Rev. T. Parry Garnier, M.A., uncle of the bridegroom, officiated, assisted by the Rev. Thomas H. Freer, M.A., rector of Sudbury, Derbyshire. Mr. and Mrs. Lawrance afterwards received the wedding party at their residence in Grosvenor-square. Among those present were the Maharajah of Johore, the Earl of Wemyss, the Earl of Sandwich, the Countess of Kingston, and many others. At five o'clock Lord Vernon and his young bride started for Sudbury Hall, his Lordship's seat in Derbyshire. The bride's travelling dress was composed of coffee-coloured crêpe de Chine and striped satin over a pink skirt, flounced with cream lace, bonnet to match with pink roses, and travelling cloak of grey camel cloth, lined with pink, and trimmed with cream lace.

The marriage of Mr. Nicholas Charlton, of Chilwell Hall, with the Hon. Helen Scarlett, second daughter of Lieut.-General Lord Abinger, C.B., took place very quietly at St. Paul's Church, Knightsbridge, on Wednesday morning. The bridegroom was accompanied by Mr. Thomas W. Charlton, his brother, as best man. The bride, who was led to the chancel by her father, Lord Abinger, was married in her travelling dress, which was entirely of French grey plush, the front being edged with a thick ruche of satin merveilleux; grey straw bonnet, beaded with jet of the same colour and trimmed with plush, and carried a bouquet of red roses; her ornaments were rubies. The Rev. H. Montague Villiers, M.A., rector of St. Paul's, officiated, the bride being given away by her father. There was breakfast, but the newly-married couple on leaving the church proceeded to Windsor, where they will pass the early days of their honeymoon.

The marriage of the Hon. Arthur Chichester, only son of Lord Templemore, with Miss Alice Dawkins, second daughter of the late Mr. Clinton C. Dawkins, formerly Consul-General at Venice, was celebrated by special licence, at St. George's Church, Hanover-square, on Wednesday afternoon. The bridegroom was attended by Mr. George Lennox Peel as best man, and there were six bridesmaids. The bride, who was accompanied to the church by her mother, was received on alighting by her eldest brother, Mr. Francis Dawkins, who conducted her to the space in front of the Communion-table, and afterwards gave her away. The bride's dress was composed of rich cream duchesse satin, handsomely trimmed with old Brussels lace, her mother's gift. Her veil was of the same lace, under which was worn a wreath of orange blossoms. Her ornaments comprised a set of diamond stars (fastening her veil), and a diamond pendant, the gifts of Lord Templemore, and a diamond necklace, the bridegroom's present. The bridesmaids were dressed in white corded silk, with full plastrons and front drapery of coffee-coloured lace and beefeater hats bound with white velvet, having crowns of white lace, and trimmed with white velvet ribbon and feather aigrettes. Each wore a red enamel brooch with initials in diamonds, the bridegroom's gift, and carried a bouquet of pink roses, tied with long pink streamers. The Rev. Canon Capel Cure performed the ceremony unassisted. Mrs. Clinton Dawkins afterwards held a reception at her residence in Pont-street. About five o'clock the Hon. Arthur and Mrs. Chichester started for St. Giles', the Earl of Shaftesbury's seat in Dorsetshire, where they will pass the honeymoon. The bride wore a travelling dress of white moiré silk trimmed with embroidery, and bonnet to match.

The Prime Minister and the Marchioness of Salisbury were honoured by the company of his Royal Highness the Duke of Cambridge at dinner at their residence in Arlington-street on Wednesday evening, when a select party was invited to meet his Royal Highness, including the Duchess of Sutherland and Lady Alexander Leveson-Gower, the Earl of Eldon, Lord and Lady George Hamilton and Miss Lascelles, Lord Boston, Lord Harris, Lady Frances Balfour, Baroness Burdett-Coutts and Mr. Burdett-Coutts, the Right Hon. Sir R. A. and Lady Cross and Miss Cross, the Right Hon. Sir Michael and Lady Lucy Hicks-Beach, Sir James Lacaita, General and Mrs. Alderson, Mr. C. H. Alderson, and Major-General Bateson, Equerry in Waiting on the Duke of Cambridge. The Marchioness afterwards held a reception, which was most numerously attended. The Duchess of Sutherland was handsomely dressed in gold and cream brocade, and Lady Alexandra Leveson-Gower wore cream satin; the Duchess of Buccleuch was in black satin, the front being relieved with gold-threaded brocade on a black ground; Mdme. Waddington wore an elegant dress of pink velvet and satin of a very lovely shade; the Marchioness of Exeter was in black broché satin; the Ladies Cecil in cream broché; the Countess of Cork in black and gold; Lady Isabel Boyle, pink satin, covered with tulle and pink moiré sash.

THE MARRIAGE OF PRINCESS BEATRICE

The Queen and Princess Beatrice, attended by a numerous suite, left Windsor Castle on Saturday morning for Osborne, whither the Court has proceeded in order to prepare for the Royal marriage, fixed to take place on Thursday next, at Whippingham Church.

Her Majesty is expected to reside in the Isle of Wight till about the 23rd of August, when the Court will remove to Balmoral.

The arrangements for the marriage of Princess Beatrice and Prince Henry of Battenberg are nearly completed. Those devolving upon the officials in the departments of the Lord Chamberlain and Master of the Horse are being supervised by Sir Spencer Ponsonby Fane and Colonel Ashley Maude, C.B., who have recently visited Windsor Castle to receive Her Majesty's commands with reference to the ceremonial, which will be similar in its details to that observed at the nuptials of the other Princes and Princesses of the Royal Family, with the exception that State carriages will not, it is understood, be used on the occasion.

The bridal trousseau of Princess Beatrice has been completed by the Court tradespeople in readiness for the wedding.

Her Majesty the Queen, the Prince and Princess of Wales, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught, Princess Louise, Prince and Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein, the Crown Prince and Princess of Germany, the Grand Duke of Hesse, and other members of the Royal Family will attend the ceremony.

The Archbishop of Canterbury will officiate, and will probably be assisted by the Bishop of Winchester, the Very Rev. Randall Davidson (Dean of Windsor), and Canon Prothero.

Considerable preparations are being made at Osborne for the entertainment of the numerous Royal and distinguished guests invited to participate in the wedding festivities, and who will, shortly arrive in the Isle of Wight. Every available apartment in the Palace will be called into requisition, and Albert and Osborne Cottages will also not unlikely be used. Tents and stores have been sent from Windsor Castle to Osborne for use during the Royal wedding. Princess Beatrice and Prince Henry of Battenberg will stay after their marriage for a time at the residence of Lady Cochrane, and when at Osborne apartments will be provided for them in the Pavilion, where the Queen's rooms are situated.

On the occasion of the marriage the Prince of Wales will have his headquarters on board the Royal yacht *Osborne*, anchored off Cowes, and among his guests will be Prince Edward of Saxe-Weimar. The grounds are to be kept by the county police, as well as the A Division of the mounted Metropolitan Police, about a hundred Lancers furnishing an extra guard. A capacious marquee is being erected in front of the Castle, for the accommodation of the numerous guests at the breakfast, and another marquee is being erected as the plate room, as all the valuable plate is to be sent down from Windsor to be used on the occasion, while a still further marquee is being erected as the glass room. The guests' horses are to occupy the Royal stables and to accommodate them all the farm-horses are to be turned out in the meadow, to be picketed with the horses of the Lancers and the Mounted Police. A large staff of men is being employed within the Castle making preparations for the reception of the guests, and plans of their quarters are to be printed for the guidance of the servants. The cottages on the estate, such as Prince Louis and the Victoria Cottage, are also being fitted up for the reception of the guests. The Prince of Wales's Equerries are to be Colonel Stanley, A. De C. Clarke, and the Hon. Harry Tyrwhitt Wilson, while the Duke of Edinburgh will have as his Equerry Major Poore, R.M.A., with whom will be Lady Harriet Poore, in attendance on the Duchess of Edinburgh. The Crown Prince and Princess of Germany are not included in the list of guests. During the ceremony the roads leading from the Castle to Whippingham Church will be closed. The interior of the edifice is being greatly altered for the occasion, among other works now in execution being the removal of the font and pulpit, and several seats on the right-hand side of the church will be taken away in order to widen the passage. The Queen will occupy her usual place on the right-hand side of the chancel, and the Cabinet Ministers and Ambassadors the seats on the opposite side, facing Her Majesty. From the gate to the entrance door a covered way is being erected, laid inside and outside with red baize, and throughout the length of the way there will be three rows of seats placed in regular form for the accommodation of those guests for whom there will be no room within the church.

The Mayor and Corporation of Windsor and a deputation from the inhabitants presented on the 10th inst. a congratulatory address to Her Majesty on the marriage of Princess Beatrice with Prince Henry of Battenberg, and also offered a wedding gift to the Princess, with addresses. The Mayor handed to the Princess the address of congratulation from the Corporation, and the Princess handed the Mayor the following reply:—"I have to thank you sincerely for your kind congratulations on my approaching marriage, which I will gladly repeat to Prince Henry of Battenberg." The Town Clerk next read an address from the inhabitants of Windsor, and the Mayor handed to the Princess a gold half-bracelet, set with thirteen brilliants with rose diamonds in the corners. Her Royal Highness said, "I am most truly grateful to you for the beautiful present which you have so kindly presented to me, and I can assure you that I am deeply touched by the very kind expressions you have used towards me on the occasion of my approaching marriage with Prince Henry of Battenberg." The Corporation and deputation then retired.

Several additional wedding gifts and congratulatory addresses from public bodies were on Wednesday presented to Princess Beatrice at Osborne.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

NEW ACROSTIC RULES.

A Prize of One Guinea is given every month for the successful solution of the Acrostics that appear in the *John Bull*.

The present monthly competition will include the Acrostics that are given on July 4, 11, 18, and 25.

At the end of the month, in case competitors tie, they will proceed to guess off the ties, being debarred from prize-winning in the fresh monthly competitions so long as they are engaged in contesting the ties.

No competitor can gain more than two Monthly Prizes in the course of the year.

All solutions must be forwarded not later than the Monday week following the appearance of the Acrostic, addressed to the ACROSTIC EDITOR of the *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street, E.C., and signed by a pseudonym of not inordinate length.

Alternatives to the number of three are allowed.

All solutions received are acknowledged, whether correct or not.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 1.

(FIFTH MONTH, TENTH YEAR.)

1. J udit H
2. U xbridg E
3. L ataki A
4. Y ach T

Answers have been received from Noryb, Evelina, Sociable, Felix, Peewit, Waddles, Viz, Magnet, Vertumnus, Asphodel, Knutsford, Conjecture, Whaup, Mike, Katydid, Iris, Paddy, Noremac, Zyx, Senga, Zulus, Roslyn, Muddle, Beam, G.C.H., Red Sea, Random Shot, Pansy, A Casual, Etak, M.A.E.B., Hadji, O.R., Two Countesses, Land o' Nod, The Owl, Myosotis, S.M.F., Roy, Conjector, and Thal.

MARCH TIES.—Persevere and Todcat have both sent correct solutions, and remain competing.

MAY TIES.—Hampton Courtier, Ketha, Mac, and Pegasus have all sent correct solutions, and remain competing.

JUNE TIES.—Bios, Godiva, Kiku, L.E.L., S.O.F., Tilly Slowboy, and Tim have all sent correct answers, and remain competing.

KIKU.—You were duly credited with the solution.

VERTUMNUS.—It is, of course, essential that a proper name should be spelt correctly.

PEEWIT.—The well-known United States tariff.

WADDLES.—Omitted because you were contesting the ties, and were thus excluded from the monthly competition.

ZYX.—You gave Light 3 of Acrostic No. 3 inaccurately.

NORYB.—You gave Amphitrite instead of Aphrodite in Acrostic No. 2.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 3.

(FIFTH MONTH, TENTH YEAR.)

PROEM.

Their conflicts served to mould the State
That spite of them has grown so great.

1.

The ancients knew it. In these modern days
Men seek its summer seas and rustic ways.

2.

"*A mon aide, mon Prince!*" If this cry resound,
Justice, 'tis thought, will surely be found.

3.

From the forest its way to the sea it seeks
Of the self-same name. Thus 'twas known to the Greeks.

4.

Of the Cappadocian triad not the least was he,
And revered by the Church he will ever be.

The result of the polling at Aylesbury was declared shortly after noon, yesterday, as follows:—Rothschild (Liberal), 2,353; Graham (Conservative), 1,416; majority for the Liberal, 937. After the declaration of the poll, Baron de Rothschild, who was received with great cheering, addressed the electors. At the general election Sir Nathaniel de Rothschild (Liberal) received 2,111 votes, and Mr. G. W. Russell (Liberal) 1,919. The unsuccessful candidate, Mr. L. G. Smith (Conservative), received 1,511 votes.

Owing to the Munster Bank failure there has been a run on several Irish banks. So serious has been the effect on the Hibernian Bank that the directors have been compelled to issue a notice to depositors that if they require them to carry out their contracts they will require depositors to do their part and give the stipulated seven days' notice for withdrawal of deposits. Should a crisis arise the Bank of Ireland will probably make a large advance. The Hibernian Bank shares on Thursday went down £2 12s.

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